

The PRODUCER

Vol. X

DENVER, COLORADO

No. 9



FEBRUARY 1929

Official Organ of the
AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume X

DENVER, COLORADO, FEBRUARY, 1929

Number 9

"The Chisholm Trail"—For Whom Was It Named?

BY WILL C. BARNES

Washington, D. C.

[Concluded from January number]

ON AN OLD MAP of "Texas and the Indian Country" published by the United States Commission of Indian Affairs in 1867, one finds the identical "Little River" on which Mrs. Narcissa Owen said her uncle Jesse lived. It proves to be a fork of the Canadian, as she "supposed." Besides this, about where the Little River joins the Canadian on the north bank one reads the words "Chisholm's Ranch." This is approximately sixty miles almost due west of the present town of McAlester, Oklahoma. It, of course, does not show on all modern maps, although the "Little River" still survives on several. On some modern maps it is spelled "Chism" Ranch.

Lieutenant Beale's Report

Seeking documentary evidence, let us turn to Lieutenant Beale's "Report on the Construction of a Wagon Road from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to the Colorado River" (Executive Document No. 42, Thirty-sixth Congress, First Session). This is a part of Beale's report, and is signed and submitted by J. R. Crump, one of Beale's officers, who headed an independent survey party. It is dated Chester, Pennsylvania, December 15, 1859.

On October 28, 1858, Crump and his party were at Fort Arbuckle, on the Canadian River, in the old Indian Territory. He needed guides to lead his party to the west. He writes:

The Comanches were very bad, and neither of the men for whom I sent would consent to start out . . . , Black Beaver and Jesse Chisholm, one a Delaware and the other a half-breed

Cherokee, both agreeing that it would be dangerous to proceed.

On November 8, 1858, Crump and his whole party were at Chisholm's ranch on Little River, and he evidently coaxed the two men to go with his expedition; for he speaks of them often after that date.

Chisholm's ranch, he says, was "about thirty miles east of Fort Arbuckle." Little River he describes as "a fine stream about 200 yards from bank to bank. . . . Catfish have been caught here weighing 100 pounds."

Chisholm, however, did not stay long with the party; for on November 29, when at a point somewhere between the Washita and Canadian Rivers, near some buttes which Crump named "Steen's Buttes" after one of his party, Crump writes:

From this point on we have no guide, as Mr. Chisholm, who has been with us, knows the country no further.

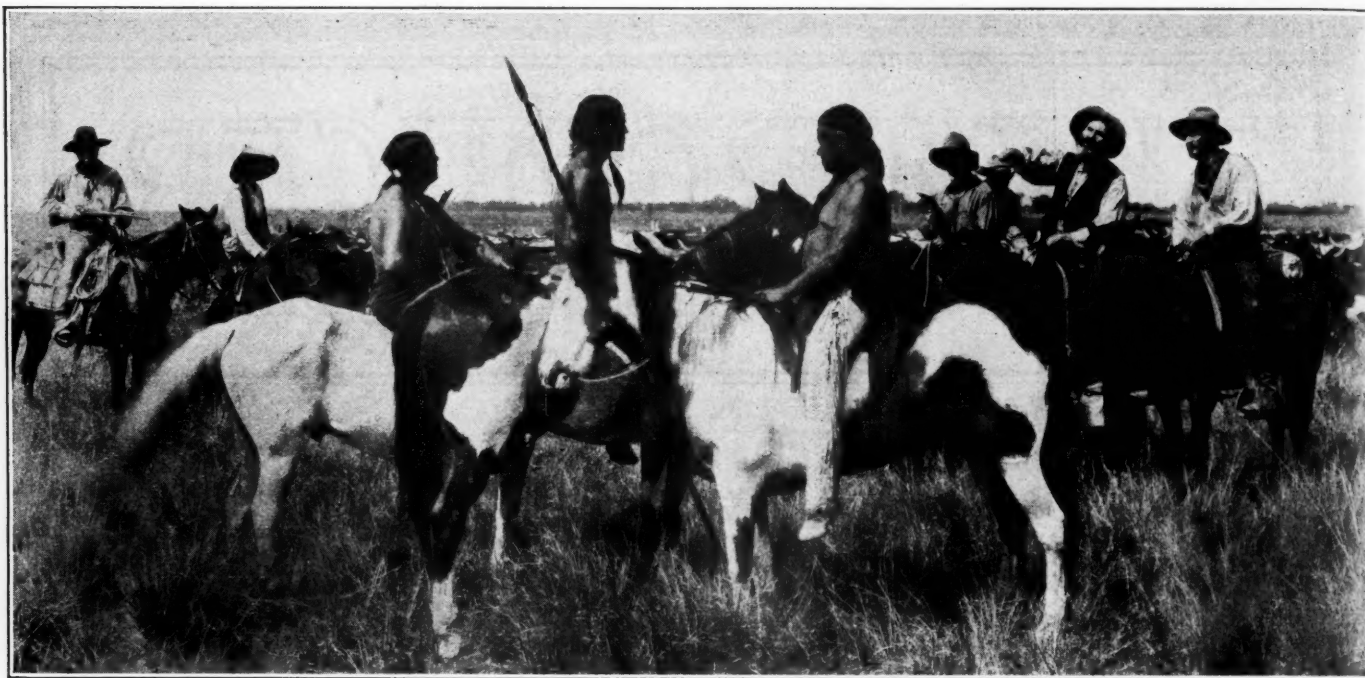
This was somewhere about the line between Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle. Coming back from California the next year, 1859, Crump's report says:

Near the Antelope Hills,* on the Canadian, we met a large drove of cattle en route to New Mexico from the Indian Territory.

A few days later Crump writes:

Crossing the Canadian, we drove to Jesse Chisholm's house—the first settlement reached by travelers from the west.

*These "Antelope Hills" are in Day County, Oklahoma, just on the line of the Texas Panhandle.



"North of 36" (Paramount Picture)

INDIANS COMING OVER TO LOOK AT CATTLE AND BUY A BEEF

There is no evidence whatever to show that Jesse Chisholm was interested in cattle. He was wholly an Indian trader, a squaw-man, and probably dealt in cattle, horses, furs, hides, and other Indian and frontier plunder.

Kansas History

There are few western states that have done so much as has Kansas to preserve their early pioneer history. The voluminous publications of the Kansas State Historical Society are rich mines for the student. In Volume V of these reports, published in 1890, we find the following notes:

"The Chisholm Trail," by J. R. Mead: Next to the Santa Fe, the most interesting and important trail in Kansas was the Chisholm Trail. Prior to the war there was no trail across the Indian Territory into central Kansas. At the outbreak of the Civil War the loyal Indians of the territory fled north for safety, and, among others, some Shawnees, Delawares, and colored people; with wagons, on horseback, or on foot; crossing rivers, timber, and prairie; arriving at the mouth of the Little Arkansas.

With these, according to the same historian, came also a large number of Wichitas and affiliated bands of Indians, who abandoned their homes on the Washita and trekked north for safety from the slaveholding tribes—mainly the Five Civilized Tribes—who held slaves and had little use for these small tribes which had never accepted slavery.

Leaving their homes along the Washita and Canadian Rivers in the Indian Territory, these small anti-slavery tribes moved en masse about 1860 to a point on the Little Arkansas where the city of

Wichita, Kansas, now stands—which, by the way, got its name from these Indians. Here they were safe from the attacks of their Indian enemies to the south. Says Mead:

In 1836, Jesse Chisholm guided a party of adventurers up the Arkansas Trail to the mouth of the Little Arkansas, in search of a legendary gold mine.

He must have remained some years in that region; for there is a "Chisholm" Creek—a tributary of the Little Arkansas—near the present city of Wichita, which shows plainly on all old maps and several of recent years.

Wichitas Move up to Kansas

The Mead history continues:

In the fall of 1863 the Wichitas and affiliated bands of Indians, refugees from their home on the Washita, in the Indian Territory, moved to the mouth of the Little Arkansas River, in Kansas, to subsist upon the buffalo. In the winter the men made excursions to their old home, collecting and driving up horses and cattle.

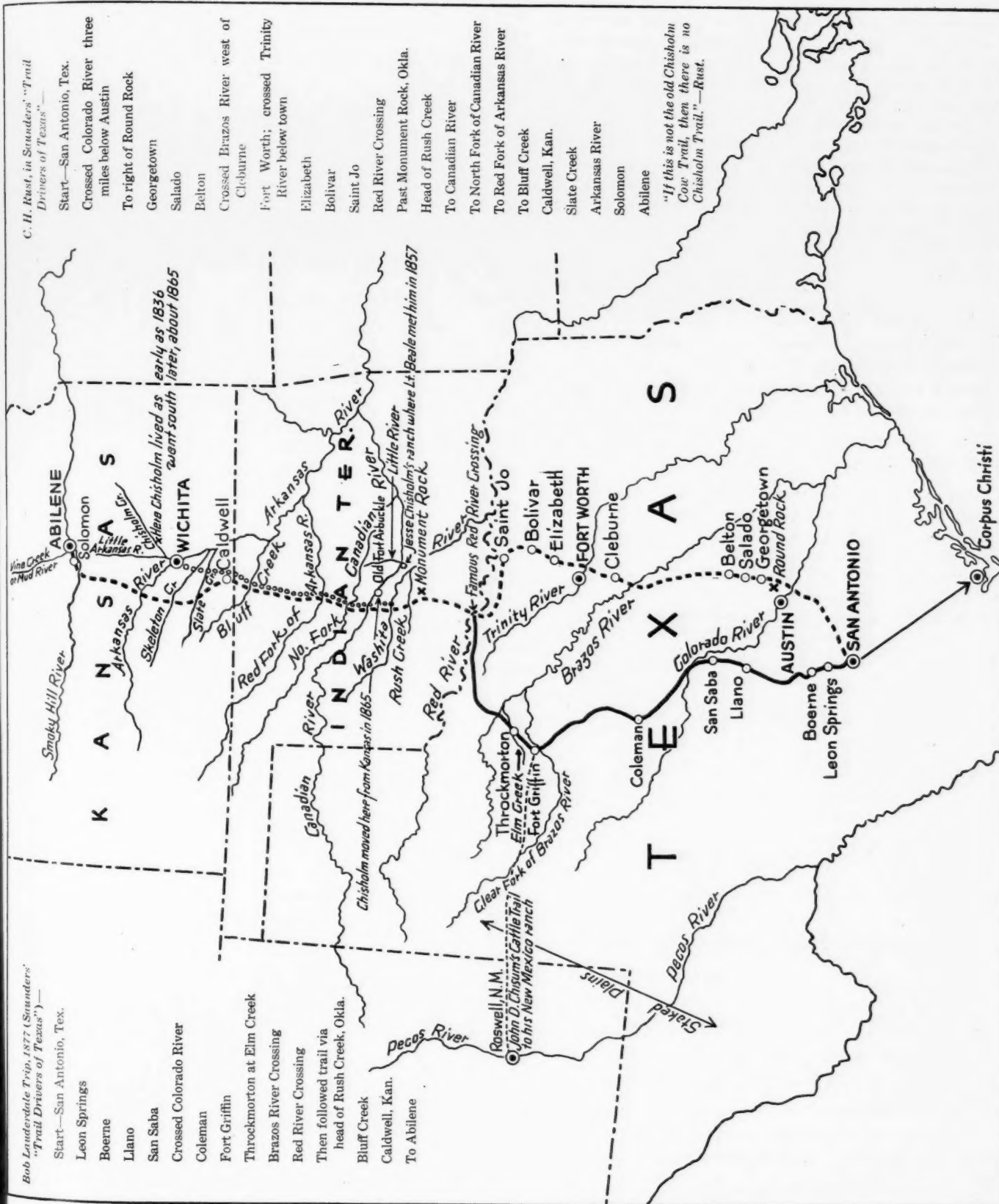
The date, 1863, must be in error, as is evident when this history is compared with other records of the period. In all probability it was not later than 1862, and possibly earlier. The movement is always spoken of as "at the beginning of the Civil War," where no date is given.

This northward movement of the Wichitas and other small tribes into Kansas is further substantiated by another article on this migration, in Volume VIII of the Kansas State Historical Society. We read (page 174):

C. H. Rust, in Saunders' "Trail Drivers of Texas"

ABILENE
Vine Creek
or Mud River
Smoky Hill River

Bob Lunderdale Trip, 1877 (Saunders' "Trail Drivers of Texas") —
Start—San Antonio, Tex.



At the outbreak of the Civil War the Indians of the Wichita Agency were living quietly and peaceably on the Washita River and other streams, near old Fort Cobb, Indian Territory. . . .

When the Civil War came they were loyal to the Union. To the east were the powerful Civilized Tribes, who were slaveholders; on the south, Texas. The Wichitas were driven out, together with many Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, and other loyal Indians. With their wives and little ones, they fled north across the pathless wilderness to Kansas and safety. They were pursued, and some of them killed. There were no roads or trails to follow. After many hardships, the scattered bands collected in southern Kansas, destitute, hungry, among strangers. The government afforded them a scant relief. The first winter all their horses starved to death, and many of their people died from want and sickness.

Afoot, hungry, almost naked, they established their temporary camp in the dense timber at the mouth of the Little Arkansas, just across from the present Murdock Avenue bridge, Wichita.

Gradually conditions became better with these poor savages in their new homes, and it began to look as if they would eventually become permanent citizens of Kansas. This was not to be, however. The report continues:

Here, along the Little Arkansas River, they lived and prospered, until the summer of 1867 brought fresh woes. Inexperience involved the wild tribes of the plains in war. Troops from St. Louis were scattered along the old Santa Fe Trail in small detachments. With them came the cholera, which spread over the plains of Kansas and the Indian Territory. White men and Indians alike died. . . . Soon the cholera commenced its deadly work among the Wichitas. . . . In the latter part of the summer, 1867, orders came from Washington to remove the Indians to their old homes, on the Washita; but no provision was made for their removal. They refused to go until their crops were gathered and a supply of food prepared for the winter.

Such statements from these historical records all tie in together so perfectly as to admit of no doubt as to their general authenticity. The only point at which they agree with the Siringo statement is as to the orders for removal of the Wichitas to their old homes. The rest of the Siringo story seems to be almost fiction.

Jesse Chisholm's Activities

In order to keep the sequence of events straight, it is necessary to turn back a few years and discover what Jesse Chisholm has been doing since he moved from the Wichita country to his new ranch on the Little Arkansas, in Kansas, in the early sixties. The Means article states:

In 1864 came Jesse Chisholm—a man in whose veins flowed the mingled blood of the Scotch Highlander and the Cherokee Indian; a man of great influence among the Indians of the plains and the territory. He loaded some teams with goods from the writer's trading-post at Towanda, Kansas, crossed at the mouth of the Little Arkansas, and started south, selecting the most suitable route to his old trading-post on the North Fork of the Canadian.

This, undoubtedly, is the expedition to which Siringo alludes in his story of Chisholm's moving the Indians, in 1867. Jesse Chisholm was looking for a way to take his friends, the Wichitas, back to their old home. It was a private venture, however, and apparently the government had little or nothing to do with it.

Reading between the lines, and from other historic articles and notes, it is evident that Jesse Chisholm set out in 1864 to find out how matters were down on the Washita. Andreas, however, in his "History of Kansas" (page 1385), makes this year 1865, which seems more likely, as the war was about over by that time, and the Indians might therefore safely return.

There is nothing this writer can find to prove that Jesse Chisholm came back to the Little Arkansas after this journey in 1865. Everything indicates that he arrived safely at his old place near Fort Arbuckle, established his trading business, and sent word to the Indians to come back from Kansas whenever they pleased.

Here is still another statement concerning this journey to the south taken by Jesse Chisholm. It was written about 1870, by a man named Andreas, and must be based on his personal knowledge of the facts:

Andreas' "History of Kansas," page 1385 [he is speaking of the Indians' original arrival in Kansas from the South]: With the Wichitas came Jesse Chisholm—a half-breed Cherokee and an adopted member of the Wichitas. He built his house on the stream which derived its name from him, east of the city of Wichita, and moved into it with his family. He also established a ranch between the two rivers, three miles above their junction, near the present residence of J. C. Davis. In the spring of 1865, Mr. Chisholm located a trail from his ranch to the present site of the Wichita Agency, on the Wichita River, Indian Territory, distance 220 miles. This trail subsequently became, and is still, known as the Chisholm Trail. It was established for the purpose of enabling the traders in the Arkansas Valley to obtain wagon communication with the Indians in the Indian Territory, and the trail was used by these traders for years in the transportation of merchandise to tribes in the territory. Afterward the trail was used by Texas cattle-drivers, and is now used by the government in the transportation of supplies to Fort Sill, forty miles south of the Wichita Agency. The principal points of this trail are Wichita, Clearwater, Caldwell, Pond Creek, Skeleton Ranch, Buffalo Springs, mouth of Turkey Creek, Cheyenne Agency, Wichita Agency, and Fort Sill.

Removal of Indians

There is very little official government information about the removal of the Indians from Wichita, Kansas, to their old home in the Indian Territory in 1867. Siringo says:

Major Henry Shanklin was in charge of the movement. He hired Jesse Chisholm, a half-breed squaw-man, to open a trail and establish depots through the territory, etc., etc.

The only bit of fact here is the name of Henry Shanklin. Shanklin was a United States Indian agent at that time, and may have been ordered to superintend the movement. He was, however, for some unknown reason, superseded by a special agent, Colonel James Worthan, who came out from Fort Smith, Arkansas, for this purpose. From the Kansas histories, however, it seems likely that little, if any, supervising of the hegira was done by anyone. The poor Indians were evidently left to work out their own salvation as best they could. There is no printed report or statement by Colonel Worthan in any printed government Indian reports in either 1867 or 1868 concerning this movement. The government records are all very voluminous and well indexed.

However, Shanklin—who was an Indian agent also—made a report, and evidently visited the Indians in their new home; for his report is dated at Wichita Agency, Indian Territory, October 1, 1868, and is as follows, in part (pages 321-22, Report of the Secretary of the Interior for 1867-68):

These Indians were moved in July, 1867. Cholera broke out, and a large number of Indians—Caddos, Wichitas, Shawnees, and Delawares—died. They moved first 450 Delawares, Shawnees, and Caddos.

These Indians the reports speaks of as "the afflicted bands." "Besides these," Shanklin says, "there were 1,200 Wichitas who would not move because their crops were not yet harvested."

The lands to which they were taken are spoken of as "the leased lands." They were in southwestern Oklahoma, in what is now Caddo, Cotton, Tillman, Greer, and Jackson Counties, south of the Canadian and north of Red River.

That this southward movement of the Wichitas was not under much, if any, control or supervision of government officers, or any other whites, is well proved by the reports in the Kansas Historical Society, which tells the sorrowful story in plain words in Volume VIII:

Along in the fall, 1867, they [the Wichitas and affiliated tribes] started down the old Chisholm Trail. Their first camp was on the Ninnescah, where misfortune again overtook them. They hobbled their horses one night in the tall grass in a bend of the river on the north side. During the night a norther set in, driving down upon them a furious prairie fire, burning eighty-five head of their best horses. This left a large number afoot, as many of their horses had been stolen and driven off by white outlaws, who had begun to infest the country that summer. The Indians were compelled to cache a large part of their provisions, which were afterwards stolen by white men, and proceeded on their journey, many of them afoot.

Cholera Summer on the Plains

The story of the cholera epidemic that swept across the plains during the summer of 1867 is one of tragedy and sorrow. It spared none in its ruthless

course. Military posts, well supplied with surgeons and medical stores, suffered alike with little isolated hamlets scattered along the Santa Fe Trail or the route of the new Kansas Pacific Railroad. The toiling hordes that were building the roads died like flies. Emigrants crossing the plains in their covered wagons left new-made graves at every night's camp. Often the bodies were abandoned and left unburied by the living, who feared even to go near the dead, lest they themselves die. It was a year of stark fear all over the plains, and thousands of unmarked graves dotted the prairies along the trails.

No sooner had the Wichitas started on their southward course, however, than the disease broke out among them even more violent and deadly than when they were in camp on the Little Wichita.

The Kansas historians tell of the sufferings of these Indians. Day after day they plodded slowly along the Chisholm Trail, horseless and afoot, hungry and discouraged, its course marked by new-made graves.

Every morning they left behind them some of their people, carried off by this terrible scourge which the white men had brought to them. At one creek so many died, and the survivors were so helpless and discouraged, that they moved off, leaving the dead bodies unburied, a prey to the birds and wild beasts. Look



OLD TRAIL-DRIVERS' MONUMENT

To be erected at San Antonio, Texas—Modeled by Gutzon Borglum

on the maps of today, and you will find "Skeleton Creek," not far south of Wichita, Kansas, which received its name from the bleaching Indian skeletons left unburied at their camp.

The disease followed them across streams, over trackless prairies, uninhabited except by the buffalo and the wild horse. They could not shake it off. Even after they reached their old country in Oklahoma it still cursed them with its unwelcome presence.

Whole families died in their lodges along the Wichita. In their great stress, the lodges, bodies, and all their belongings were burned—something absolutely unknown among those Indians.

One wonders if the old men of the tribe recalled the dreadful visitation of smallpox which the French explorers brought to the Wichita from the south, more than a century before, and which decimated the tribe almost to a remnant. Little did they owe the white man's civilization. It was a sad and sorrowful return over the Chisholm Trail for these red men of the plains.

Chisholm Is Gathered to His Fathers

This historical sketch goes on to explain how the Indians, on reaching the Wichita country, found their old friend and adopted brother, Jesse Chisholm, who, like some ancient patriarch, gathered them about him and endeavored to get them located on their old farms and hunting-grounds. The Kansas history continues:

Here they remained until he suddenly died on the North Fork of the Canadian River, in the Indian Territory, March 4, 1868, of cholera morbus, caused by eating bear's grease that had been poisoned by being melted in a brass kettle.

This was a terrible blow to the Indians, who, according to the report above quoted, "robbed of their wise leader, scattered like a flock of quail. He was their friend, counselor, lawgiver, and father. Each band went its own way."

In the spring, the Wichitas, what was left of them, finally assembled at their old homes on the Washita, where the government had sent Colonel J. H. Leavenworth with some provisions for their needs. There they have resided to the present time. Fort Sill—a large army post—and the thriving city of Lawton, Oklahoma, are now located near the Wichitas' old stamping-grounds.

From all the evidence unearthed, it seems absolutely safe to say that the famous Chisholm Trail, over which more than ten million cattle and horses were driven north from Texas, in the years between 1863 and 1875, to Abilene and other Kansas points, was laid out by Jesse Chisholm, and was in use by the Indians under his name long before Texas cattle began to travel over it. It was called after Jesse Chisholm, Mrs. Owen's uncle, who first moved the Wichitas north over it to the site of the present city of Wichita, Kansas, as early as 1862 or 1863. These Indians made frequent trips back and forth over it to their old home in Oklahoma, to bring back cattle and horses left behind when they first moved north. Jesse Chisholm himself went over it in 1862, and again in 1864 or 1865. The Wichitas and affiliated tribes passed south over it in 1867, returning to their former lands in the Indian Territory.

TARIFF TO BE PROTECTIVE SHOULD BE PROHIBITIVE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

OPPOSITION to increasing the present tariff on live stock, meats, hides, or any animal product was to have been expected. No sooner had the battle opened at Washington, and the proponents of high rates had an opportunity to express their desires and opinions, than the anvil chorus of protest churned the atmosphere. Chain-store owners, city meat distributors, and others insisted that higher tariffs meant restricted volume, added cost to consumers, and curtailed consumption. Tanners and shoemakers asserted that a tariff on hides would necessitate advances in the cost of shoes of \$2 to \$3 per pair, ignoring, of course, the specific promise made, when hides went on the free list, that shoes would cost less money, which never happened. Our Canadian cousins interested in the cattle industry were on the ground, making an effort, not to reduce Fordney tariff rates, but to avert increases, their plan being to bring influence to bear on feeders. Whether or not Canada would, in the event of an increase in Fordney rates, resort to retaliation in the nature of an export tariff on wood-pulp, remains to be seen, but such retaliation has been intimated.

For the enlightenment of meat-jobbers, claiming that higher duties on meat would restrict volume, it may be said that, under present conditions, only a limited volume of beef imports is possible. The 35,000,000 odd pounds which New Zealand sent us during the first ten months of 1928 were delivered mainly during the August and September period of domestic cattle scarcity and high beef prices, its arrival on this market having been due mainly to that condition. Canada would have responded with a large volume of exports to this market but for the fact that its surplus beef production has been whittled down to small volume. From no other countries is the importation of any considerable quantity of beef possible, with the exception of South America, the product of which is now excluded for sanitary reasons. Live-cattle imports can come only from Canada and Mexico. The latter is about pumped out, and Canada has no cheap cattle to send. In fact, several thousand Alberta steers were unable to reach this market in 1928, as Calgary went above a parity with Chicago, taking the present tariff into the reckoning, which is the first time Fordney rates have become prohibitive and protective to the American grower.

A tariff on live stock or meats, from a revenue basis, is not deserving of serious consideration—at least from the producer's standpoint; consequently any schedule not actually prohibitive will not accomplish the purpose sought, which is nothing more nor less than a monopoly of the United States meat market by domestic producers. The problem, therefore, is: What rates must be established to create a barrier? Also: What will Canada do, if such a barrier is created, by way of retaliation? A tariff that would merely take more money out of the Canadian grower's pocket, at the same time enabling him to continue sending his surplus production to this market, is, obviously, no protection to domestic growers, although the farcical nature of the performance may not be sensed. Other than a few shiploads of Canadian cattle sent to British ports, in a futile effort to open up a market there, the entire Canadian surplus has come to this market since the Fordney tariff became operative, for the reason that it has no other outlet; and it will continue to come just as long as any net return can be made to the grower, after freight, duty, and other expense have been paid. If the American cattleman can be kidded into believing that the Fordney tariff has furnished him with the smallest measure of actual protection, he is incapable of seeing

through a ladder. A protective tariff must be sufficiently high to exclude foreign competition.

Of course, every pound of foreign meats entering the domestic market creates that much more competition, and the assertion cannot be seriously disputed that domestic food-producers are entitled to a monopoly of their own market, at least until inability to meet meat-consumption requirements has been demonstrated. An effort has been made to create an impression that the sharp decline in cattle values subsequent to last September was the result of heavy importations from New Zealand and Canada. Admitting that these imports may have exerted some influence on prices, the fact is indisputable that the cattle market got out of hand at that period, and that competition by feeders on cattle actually in beef condition caused the boom that collapsed even more suddenly than it developed. In other words, values were inflated, and the crash was inevitable. It was temporary inflation that made the import of about 35,000,000 pounds of beef from New Zealand possible at that juncture, little having arrived since.

Obviously, the only real protection American cattle-growers and feeders enjoy now is the embargo on South American product, and their chief interest lies in continuing that embargo. So far as Canada is concerned, the tariff on meats and live stock should either be made effective by increases that would exclude her modest contribution to our meat supply, or the bars should be thrown down entirely, in view of the fact that the Dominion is our best customer, and that the Fordney tariff merely takes money out of the Canadian pocket, transferring it to the United States treasury, after a heavy toll for collection has been taken by the bureaucrats of the customs department. Congress should quit bunking the live-stock grower, as it has been doing for eight years past.

OMAHA COMMISSION RATES

THE ISSUE of the *Monthly Record* of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration dated January 15 contains liberal quotations from the opinion of the District Court for Nebraska in the Omaha commission-rate case. With respect to the claim of the commission firms, on which the plea of unconstitutionality was predicated, that their work is a personal service, that they ought to be as free to bargain for the price which they are to receive for that service as any other workmen, and that to take away this right would deprive them of their liberty of contract, the court said:

"For many years the agencies have operated under a schedule of rates fixed by their Omaha exchange, and undoubtedly the fact that rates are so fixed by an organization of which the commission men and traders are members, and their customers—the live-stock owners and shippers—are not, inclines public authority to take a hand in the matter. . . . If the owners of the fifty-eight firms or corporations comprising the respondents can, through a committee or whatever other machinery they see fit to adopt, arrive at the rates to be charged the shippers, a disinterested governmental agency can fairly arrive at such rates. . . .

"We are not persuaded that it is within the power of the plaintiffs to combine and agree among themselves upon commissions that would be exorbitant enough to destroy the market and the interstate commerce, and yet remain beyond the reach of federal regulation. We are satisfied that Congress has full power to regulate this commerce in the basic food supply of the nation throughout the long channel through which it flows. . . . Inanimate property of itself neither serves nor produces without human brain and sweat to guide and drive. So in all regulation there is involved the regulation of the services of man."

In prescribing reasonable rates, the opinion held, the Secretary of Agriculture "has been guided by proper considera-

tion." He accorded the parties a hearing, and, on the basis of oral evidence and extensive audits of the accounts of all the market agencies concerned, had before him sufficient data to build up a rate schedule. After a detailed study of the account of the fifty-eight plaintiffs, he found, from the various items of expense necessary for the performance of the marketing function, a maximum reasonably chargeable for each detail. To the sum of these maximum charges for handling each species he added an amount to cover those items for which it was not possible from the record to get exact figures, and for omissions. Regarding this allowance the court said:

"Where, as in this case, the rate-maker has provided a margin and spread for such contingencies, the court must keep hands off until there has been practical application."

The secretary refused to be bound by aggregates and mathematical averages, or by either the lowest or the highest per-car cost. He found as a reasonable maximum cost of each item a normal well below the highest and well above the lowest. In each case this normal expense for getting the thing done represents a figure at which those firms doing a reasonable volume of business in a reasonably efficient manner are getting it done in actual operation. And the court adds:

"Undoubtedly, if rates were fixed so high that certain profits were assured regardless, the agencies would multiply much faster than the live stock could be brought to the market, and an endless chain of rate increases would be necessary. It is not the purpose of regulation to bring this about."

Basic maximum rates, as prescribed by the secretary on the basis above set forth, are \$15 for selling a car of cattle, \$12 for selling a car of hogs, and \$18 for selling a double-deck car of sheep. (The *Omaha World-Herald*, from which we quoted in our January issue, erroneously mentioned a basic charge of \$5 a car for cattle and sheep, and \$3 a car for hogs. These amounts are salesmanship expenses, which are included in the basic rates.)

It is understood that the order of the court was to become effective thirty days from the date of issue, or January 17, 1929, and that the plaintiffs have taken steps to file an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.

OKLAHOMA CITY BOYCOTT CASE

IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOYCOTT CASE, it will be remembered, the Secretary of Agriculture had issued an order requesting certain market agencies and dealers to "cease and desist" from discriminating against two independent firms at that market, one of which was a co-operative. Respondents applied to the federal court for an injunction to restrain enforcement of the order, which was granted; the court finding that, while the secretary had sufficient evidence to sustain his order, the co-operative had not conducted its business in accordance with its charter.

On this point the government has taken an appeal to the Supreme Court, where the case has been set down for argument on March 5, 1929.

KANSAS CONVENTION

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Kansas Live Stock Association will be held at Wichita, March 6-8, 1929; headquarters to be at the Broadview Hotel. As there is an oil boom in progress at Wichita, it is advisable to make reservations in advance. Write either to the Broadview Hotel or to Secretary J. H. Mercer, Topeka.

IDAHO WOOL-GROWERS' CONVENTION

ON JANUARY 8-10, 1929, the Idaho Wool Growers' Association met in annual convention at Boise. A large number of sheepmen from all parts of the state were in attendance.

President R. C. Rich outlined the history of the domestic wool industry during the past year, as well as the outlook for the immediate future, mentioning the hope of securing higher duties both on wool and lamb in the coming tariff revision. The secretary submitted his annual report, showing a favorable financial condition of the association. Dr. J. J. Kelly, president of the University of Idaho, gave an address. Hugh Sproat reported for the Tax Committee, Vice-President F. S. Gedney for the Labor and Hay Committee, W. R. Barber for the Cost-of-Production Committee, and S. W. McClure for the Wool-Marketing Committee. F. J. Hagenbarth, president of the National Wool Growers' Association, urged closer co-operation, and J. P. Draper, of Boston, spoke on wool merchants' problems.

On the last day, reports were submitted by Martin Curran for the Freight Rates, Stock-Yards, and Transportation Committee; Charles Abbott for the Lamb-Marketing and Advertising Committee; T. C. Bacon for the Forest Range and Public Lands Committee; and Bob Naylor for the Predatory-Animals Committee. Addresses were delivered by R. A. Pierce, general superintendent of the Union Pacific System; Mrs. James Laird, president of the Ladies' Wool Growers' Association of Idaho Falls; F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association; O. M. Plummer, general manager of the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Oregon; D. W. Hartzell, of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, Chicago, who gave a meat-cutting demonstration; F. E. Hovey, president of the Omaha Stock Yards National Bank; R. E. Thomas, state game warden; and Ernest Winkler, assistant district forester.

R. C. Rich, of Burley, was re-elected president, and F. C. Gedney, of Mountain Home, vice-president—both by unanimous vote.

OREGON WOOL-GROWERS IN CONVENTION

THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association, gathering in Baker on January 11 and 12, was counted among the best ever held. President Warner in his address covered all the chief problems faced by the sheepman, giving particular attention to the tariff. Other speakers were: O. M. Plummer, manager of the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition; Professor E. L. Potter, of Oregon Agricultural College; F. M. Simpson, of Swift & Co.; E. N. Kavanagh, assistant district forester; Dr. Parsons, of the Bureau of Animal Industry; Dr. J. N. Shaw, of the Oregon Experiment Station; Stanley Jewett, C. E. Crouch, and Ira N. Gabrielson, of the Biological Survey; R. A. Ward, manager of the Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers; F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association; Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian; and C. L. Jamison, assistant secretary of the American National Live Stock Association. D. W. Hartzell, of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, gave a lamb-cutting demonstration.

Resolutions were adopted favoring—

Enlargement of powers of federal intermediate credit banks, appropriation of at least \$300,000,000 to be used as an emergency fund by these banks, and separation of their directorate from that of federal land banks;

Orderly marketing of wool in accordance with manufacturers' requirements;

Opposition to reduction in present tariff on wool;

Establishment of laboratory in Oregon for study of sheep diseases;

Appointment of committee to consider merger with Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon;

Appropriation by Congress of sufficient money to carry out ten-year program in control of predatory animals and rodents on national forests and public domain, and by state legislature of \$50,000 for control of these animals throughout state;

Improvement of driveways, and reduction of rates charged by Forest Service for sheep passing through national forests on way to private lands;

Modification of Packers' Consent Decree to make it permissible for packers to engage in retail marketing of food products;

Opposition to inclusion of any large areas in additional parks or game preserves.

W. P. Mahoney, of Heppner, was elected president for the current year; Fred Phillips, of Baker, first vice-president; Garrett Barratt, of Heppner, second vice-president; and S. E. Miller, of Union, third vice-president.

OREGON TO FIGHT STOCK-RUSTLERS

A JOINT MEETING of representatives of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon and the Oregon Wool Growers' Association was held in Pendleton on December 15, for the purpose of considering means for improving the marketing of live-stock products and preventing the enormous losses from theft. For the American National Live Stock Association appeared C. L. Jamison, assistant secretary.

It was recommended that there be rigid and frequent inspection of all packing-houses, meat-shops, and other places where meat is handled. A system of state police to patrol the highways, licensing and bonding of operators of trucks and automobiles used in the transportation of live stock, and a law that would require bills-of-sale on all live-stock transactions, and country-killed animals to be moved by tags issued from the sheriff's office, were among the measures suggested for the suppression of the theft evil.

COLORADO SHEEPMEN INDORSE PREDATORY-ANIMAL BILL

INDORSEMENT of the predatory-animal bill now before the Colorado General Assembly was voted by the board of directors of the Colorado Wool Growers' Association, in session at Denver, January 14-16. This bill would impose a mill levy on live stock to provide funds for the employment of hunters, the levy to replace the present \$15,000 appropriation. An amount of \$100,000, it is expected, would be derived from this source, to be used in co-operation with the Biological Survey. All neighboring states, it was pointed out, have similar laws.

COLORADO STOCK-GROWERS MEET

MEETING IN DENVER during stock-show week, as is their wont, members of the Colorado Stock Growers' Association assembled in their fifty-fifth annual convention on January 16, 1929. The session lasted all day, and was one of the best-attended and most successful ever held by the organization.

Among the achievements of the past year, mentioned by President J. W. Goss in his review, had been a material reduction in the minimum value placed on live stock for taxation purposes, efforts to secure lower freight rates, improved rail-

way service, advance estimates of Monday live-stock receipts at Denver through the co-operation of the carriers, and participation in the movement to secure better tariff protection for the industry. While the year had been a good one for the stockman, he said, it would require several such seasons to get the industry back on a solid foundation. Many other interesting addresses were made, followed by lively discussion.

It was decided to send the secretary-manager, Dr. B. F. Davis, to Washington to represent the association at the tariff hearings before the committee of the House of Representatives, and to testify in favor of an increase in the duties on meats and a tariff on hides.

All officers were re-elected: J. W. Goss, of Avondale, president; W. L. Curtis, of Gunnison, vice-president; J. H. Neal, of Denver, treasurer; and B. F. Davis, of Denver, secretary and general manager.

HIGHLAND REREFORD BREEDERS MEET

AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING of the Highland Hereford Breeders' Association in Marfa, Texas, on January 22, instructions were sent to representatives of the district in Congress to use their influence in securing higher tariff rates on cattle, meats, and wool, and a tariff on hides. Aid was requested from the state legislature in the war on the loco weed, and a five-year closed season on deer was demanded.

The matter of the feeder-calf show to be held by the association next fall was discussed. At this show it is planned to have eastern buyers on the ground to bid for calves.

T. C. Mitchell was re-elected president, and W. P. Fischer vice-president.

SHEEP-RAISERS OF UTAH PASS RESOLUTIONS

SPEAKERS AT THE CONVENTION of the Utah Wool Growers' Association, held in Salt Lake City on January 22 and 23, included Frank J. Hagenbarth and F. R. Marshall, president and secretary, respectively, of the National Wool Growers' Association; J. F. Walker, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; John T. Caine, III, former chief of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration; State Senator W. D. Candland; James A. Hooper, secretary of the association; and J. L. Neilson. D. W. Hartzell gave a carcass-cutting demonstration.

Resolutions were adopted—

- Demanding higher tariff on wool and meats;
- Urging construction of more driveways for sheep between winter and summer ranges;
- Requesting increase by Congress of appropriation for control of predatory animals;
- Favoring eradication by state of obnoxious weeds;
- Protesting against method of Arizona in assessing Utah sheep grazing across state line;
- Indorsing campaign of National Live Stock and Meat Board for increasing consumption of lamb.

PRODUCER ASSOCIATIONS HAVE SUCCESSFUL YEAR

CO-OPERATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRODUCERS, at the conclusion of a four-day session in Chicago, January 23-26, announced the most successful twelvemonth in their seven years of operation. Three distinct marketing activities have been developed and were discussed in detail by the delegates:

1. The terminal market operations, which are handled by the twelve Producer Commission Associations. The total

volume of business handled in 1928 by these associations amounted to 84,642 carloads of cattle, calves, sheep, and hogs, or 6,133,821 head. This figure represents 13.7 per cent of the market receipts, with a total combined value of \$138,263,825.

2. The National Producers Feeder Pool, which handled 84,004 head of lambs, with a total sales value of \$648,844, and 22,102 head of cattle, with a value of \$1,351,633.

3. The national order-buying agency, the Eastern States Company, which handled 450,878 head of live stock, with a sales value of \$7,636,975—an increase of 9 per cent over 1927.

Combining these figures, we have a total for the year amounting to 6,689,305 head of live stock, valued at \$147,252,432.

In the business sessions, action was taken to establish a Research Bureau for the association, and also to organize a National Credit Corporation capable of handling loans of at least a million dollars.

The same officers were returned for the ensuing year, headed by C. B. Denman, Farmington, Mo., president of the National Association; E. C. Rector, Williamsport, Ohio, president of the Feeder Pool; and E. A. Beamer, Blissfield, Mich., president of the Eastern States Company.

PROGRESS OF CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING

FARMERS AND LIVE-STOCK MEN are learning the advantages of large-scale operation made possible through co-operative organization, and are now more and more handling marketing problems on the group plan, said C. G. Randell, economist of the Department of Agriculture, addressing the convention of the Western Cattle Marketing Association at San Francisco in December. Among live-stock producers, the California organization, selling cattle direct to packers, and the National Live Stock Producers' Association are already of national significance. Among other important enterprises Mr. Randell mentioned:

"The outstanding example of successful co-operation in grain-marketing is the Canadian Wheat Producers (the 'Wheat Pool'). In 1927 this co-operative handled 226,000,000 bushels of grain, including more than 50 per cent of the Canadian wheat marketed. The present membership of the pool is estimated as 145,000 growers. It operates, or has under construction, more than 1,100 country elevators, as well as terminal elevators with storage capacity of 30,000,000 bushels. Capital investment is approximately \$25,000,000.

"Among the large fluid-milk co-operatives is the Dairy-men's League Co-operative Association, Inc., of New York. Although having handled milk less than ten years, this association has built up assets of more than \$12,000,000. Its 1927 business amounted to \$82,000,000.

"Another outstanding example is the Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., which markets butter for approximately 500 creameries of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas. In 1927 this association handled 84,000,000 pounds of butter and did a total business of more than \$46,000,000. The Challenge Cream and Butter Association, known throughout the West, had a business of \$16,000,000 in 1927.

"During the year ended October 31, 1928, the California Fruit Growers' Exchange marketed fruit, the f.o.b. value of which exceeded \$96,000,000. This fruit was 71.5 per cent of the crop in its production area. There are about twenty-five large-scale fruit and vegetable associations in existence today.

"The Washington Co-operative Egg and Poultry Association of Seattle assembles and ships eggs in car-lot quantities to eastern markets. Its business in 1927 was more than \$18,387,000.

"The Staple Cotton Association at Greenwood, Mississippi, does an annual business of approximately \$20,000,000. Twelve cotton co-operatives have set up a central organization known as the American Cotton Growers' Exchange, which acts as a central agency for problems of a sales, legal, and financial character, matters of transportation, field service, and educational activities."

PROSPECTS IN CATTLE TRADE

IN AN ANALYSIS of conditions and prospects in the cattle market at the turn of the year, sent out over the radio, C. V. Whalin, chief of the Live Stock, Meats, and Wool Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, had this to say, among other things:

"Analyzing the present situation in the cattle market, we find that medium-grade steers are selling at about the same prices as they did a year ago, and that lower grades are slightly higher. Good and choice steers, however, are one to two dollars lower. Total steer receipts at Chicago in December were 17 per cent larger than in December, 1927, and receipts of good and choice steers were 35 per cent larger. The supply of medium grades was about the same.

"The fact that a large proportion of the cattle now on feed were taken out early, and that the supply of corn for feeding is more plentiful and of better quality than in 1927, indicates a relatively large proportion of well-finished cattle in the market receipts during the next few months. Average weights at Chicago in recent weeks have been running 50 to 70 pounds higher than a year ago. Most of the weight increases are in the lower grades, which represent 'warmed-up' heavy steers that were taken out for a short feed.

"While supplies of fed cattle during the next few months may exceed those for the same months last year, supplies of other kinds of slaughter cattle will probably be considerably smaller, and total slaughter will probably be less than last year.

"From now until the movement of grass cattle begins, market supplies will improve in quality, because of the longer time that cattle have been on feed. This means that prices of the better-grade steers will probably continue their usual downward seasonal trend which is now under way. The low point of this price decline will probably be reached in May or June. An increasing scarcity of low-grade steers as the season advances will cause prices of such grades to move upward, and reach their peak at about the same time as the low point is made on good and choice grades."

PRODUCERS CAUTIONED AGAINST OVEREXPANSION

LIVE-STOCK PRODUCERS and farmers generally should continue their efforts to adjust production to demand, and avoid increasing production of those things which are now in ample supply, if they are to maintain their present level of income, according to the annual agricultural outlook report issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Some expansion in beef cattle may be warranted, says the bureau, but a warning is sounded against too rapid expansion of sheep, dairy cattle, and hogs. The domestic demand for farm products is expected to be maintained during the early part of this year, with foreign demand continuing about the same as during 1928.

The outlook for the cattle industry continues favorable, according to this authority, with prices about at the peak of the cycle. This does not appear to be a favorable time for new producers to enter the industry. Those already in may profit by moderate expansion during the next two or three years, even though prices go somewhat lower.

The hog outlook for 1929 is favorable. Slaughter is expected to be considerably smaller than in 1928, with some improvement in foreign and no material change in domestic demand. The seasonal levels of hog prices in 1929 and 1930 are expected to average higher than in 1928.

Although increased numbers of sheep have not as yet affected the markets, caution should enter into production plans, as present lamb prices cannot be maintained if expansion is made too rapidly. Active business conditions will continue to help support the lamb and wool market well through 1929, with a possible slackening in late 1929 or in 1930.

CATTLE PRICE CYCLE NEAR HIGH POINT

AN EXPLANATION of the present relatively high prices of beef and beef cattle appears in the annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture. Mr. Jardine writes:

"Records of the last twenty-eight years show that under normal business conditions the prosperity of the cattlemen in this country varies inversely with the per-capita supply of beef available for consumption. A yearly supply in excess of 61 pounds per person tends to depress cattle prices to such levels as to force liquidation. On the other hand, a per-capita supply maintained at or below that amount will bring about a rise in prices. In 1926 the per-capita supply of beef amounted to 63.3 pounds. In 1927 it dropped to 58 pounds, and average cattle prices advanced 18 per cent. For the current year the per-capita supply will probably not exceed 54 pounds, and will be the smallest for any year for which records are available. As a result, average prices for cattle during the first eight months were 27 per cent higher than in 1927 and 44 per cent above those in 1926."

As regards the future, the report continues:

"The cattle industry has a definite cycle averaging from fourteen to sixteen years. Apparently it is now near the low point of the production cycle and the high point of the price cycle. Previous similar points occurred in 1912 and 1898. It requires three to four years sufficiently to increase beef supplies through restocking and herd expansion to make production unprofitable. Since the population of the country is increasing at the rate of more than 1,500,000 annually, the general outlook for the cattle industry is extremely favorable."

MEAT TRADE IN 1928

REVIEWING the live-stock and meat situation during the past year, W. W. Woods, the new president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, says in part:

"The production of beef and veal during the year was about 10 per cent smaller than the production in 1927, but this reduction practically was offset by an increase in the production of pork and lard. Production of lamb and mutton increased slightly.

"The volume of meat and meat products exported during the year was somewhat greater than in 1927, but the total value of products exported was below the total for last year. Nearly one and one-quarter billions of pounds of product were exported, the value exceeding \$160,000,000.

"Farmers who had cattle to market received relatively high prices in every month of the year. The average price for cattle at Chicago was higher in each of the first ten months than in the same months of 1927, and practically as high in the closing months. The higher price-levels were due to the continued shortage of beef cattle. The number of cattle dressed under federal inspection during the first ten months of this year was 16 per cent smaller than the number dressed during the same period of 1926, and 10 per cent below the number dressed during the same months of 1927. The high prices paid for cattle made profitable marketing of beef difficult, if not impossible. Prices to the consumer were very high, and the packers' net margin either scant or lacking.

"Producers of sheep received higher prices in nine months of the year than they received in the same months of last year.

"Prices of hogs were relatively low during the first four months of the year, and during the last two months, because of unusually heavy marketings during those months, but prices in the late spring and summer were on a considerably higher price-level.

"No important change in the supply of meat during 1929 is indicated. According to reports issued by the Department of Agriculture, the supply of beef cattle will continue to be relatively small, and no great change is probable in the supply of hogs or sheep and lambs."

"We wish to assure you that we value THE PRODUCER, and shall continue to want it."—BODINE & CLARK, Portland, Ore.

MOVEMENT TO FURTHER BEEF INTERESTS

MEANS OF PROMOTING the common interests of beef-producers of the United States were considered at a meeting held in Denver on the evening of January 15. Delegates from all the various branches of the cattle industry were present, as well as representatives of the packers, commission men, stock-yard people, and the Department of Agriculture—all to the number of about two hundred.

Oakley Thorne, president of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Breeders' Association and chairman of the board of the Better Beef Association, presided, and R. J. Kinzer, secretary of the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, acted as secretary. Addresses were made by Dan D. Casement, D. A. Millett, Murdo Mackenzie, W. A. Cochel, Dr. B. F. Davis, secretary of the Colorado Stock Growers' Association; Samuel R. Guard, editor of the *Breeder's Gazette*; R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board; Virgil V. Parr, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Everett C. Brown, president of the National Live Stock Exchange; F. S. Snyder, chairman of the board of the Institute of American Meat Packers; F. Edson White, president of Armour & Co.; G. F. Swift, vice-president of Swift & Co.; Thomas E. Wilson, president of Wilson & Co.; and several others.

Indorsement was given to a program embracing a unified effort through organization to seek to improve conditions surrounding the beef-cattle industry, the immediate objective being to see to it that the industry got a square deal at the forthcoming tariff revision.

A resolution was adopted calling upon the following twenty-nine men to serve as a committee on governmental relations, with full authority to adopt such policies and take such action as seemed necessary:

George Bailey, Lowell, Ind.; Henry Boice, Phoenix, Ariz.; Clyde Brenton, Des Moines, Iowa; Charles D. Carey, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Dan D. Casement, Manhattan, Kan.; W. A. Cochel, Kansas City, Mo.; James D. Cox, Dayton, Ohio; Eugene D. Funk, Bloomington, Ill.; F. W. Harding, Chicago, Ill.; H. O. Harrison, San Francisco, Cal.; W. C. Harris, Sterling, Colo.; Heber Hoard, Central City, Neb.; Harry Hopley, Atlantic, Iowa; Wallis Huidekoper, Two Dot, Mont.; R. J. Kinzer, Kansas City, Mo.; R. M. Kleberg, Corpus Christi, Tex.; R. P. Lamont, Jr., Larkspur, Colo.; H. C. Moffitt, San Francisco, Cal.; John E. Painter, Roggen, Colo.; Dante Pierce, Des Moines, Iowa; Hubbard Russell, Los Angeles, Cal.; J. B. Shaum, Tarkio, Mo.; F. S. Snyder, Boston, Mass.; G. F. Swift, Chicago, Ill.; Oakleigh Thorne, Millbrook, N. Y.; W. H. Tomhave, Chicago, Ill.; F. Edson White, Chicago, Ill.; Thomas E. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.; W. W. Woods, Chicago, Ill.

In case any of these is unable or unwilling to serve, the remaining members were requested to fill the vacancies. Dan D. Casement was made chairman of the committee.

It was pointed out that President-elect Hoover had suggested the organization of boards representing the different branches of agriculture, to co-operate with the government, and that this committee might be asked to function in some such capacity under the coming administration.

A special committee was named to consider ways and means of financing the movement.

CORN-BORER CONFERENCE

A COMPLETE PROGRAM of research for controlling the European corn-borer was adopted at the third annual conference of representatives from the infested states and the Corn Belt, held in Washington, D. C., January 2. This program includes work by six bureaus of the Department of Agriculture.

Among the lines of investigation will be studies by these federal bureaus, in co-operation with the states affected, on feeding and otherwise using corn-stalks, breeding experiments to produce strains that may prove tolerant to the borer, fertility tests to hasten development of the corn plant so as to miss the maximum moth flight, and investigations as to the possibility of displacing the corn plant with other crops of equal value. Experiments with insecticides, repellants, and attractants will be conducted, and the project now under way to introduce parasites from foreign countries will be continued, as well as efforts to determine the value of fall and spring plowing in different types of soil and with different types of plows.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH REAPPEARS IN CALIFORNIA

AN OUTBREAK of foot-and-mouth disease occurred last month in a herd of swine near Whittier, Los Angeles County, California. Immediately upon diagnosis of the disease, a corps of experienced veterinary inspectors was rushed to the scene by telegraphic orders from Washington, and officials in all states and near-by foreign countries were notified. A quarantine zone was established by the federal and state governments, and the entire herd, numbering 3,500 hogs, was promptly slaughtered and buried.

In view of these energetic measures, and the fact that the infected herd was on premises well isolated from other live stock, it is not considered likely that the disease will spread any farther. The source of the outbreak appears to have been infected garbage from a ship that had visited a foreign port.

(As we go to press, word is received of the spread of the infection to a herd of dairy cows.)

SERUM FOR FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

A SERUM for combating foot-and-mouth disease is being tried out in Germany—so far with satisfactory results. As the disease has become thoroughly established in Europe, the drastic eradication measures resorted to in the United States are out of the question there, and preventive and curative treatments are the only practical means available for reducing the losses. The new serum is prepared from animals which have been made immune by being inoculated with constantly increasing doses of the virus.

Inoculation is practiced in three ways. The first is only temporary in its effects, rendering the animal immune for about ten days. The second type is given to cattle simultaneously with an artificial infection from the disease virus itself, and must be administered in the very earliest stages of their reaction. Finally, a curative inoculation is given to cattle that have contracted the disease, but in which it has not yet reached an advanced stage.

INFECTIOUS ABORTION

THAT LOSSES TO LIVE-STOCK OWNERS from contagious abortion are to a large extent preventable, and will in time yield to investigation, is the opinion of Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, addressing the abortion committee of the National Research Council in Chicago last month. These losses, he said, aggregate fully \$50,000,000 annually.

Extensive experiments are now being carried on by the government with a view to developing an improved vaccine and determining the degree of immunity afforded by vacci-

nation, as well as other possible channels of infection than those commonly recognized, means of limiting infection, etc. It is suggested by Dr. Mohler that, in addition to the federal investigations, work should be undertaken by a number of qualified institutions, co-operating with the National Research Council and the Department of Agriculture.

HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA LARGELY DUE TO EXPOSURE

LOWERED VITALITY makes live stock subject to infections which animals of normal vigor more readily resist. This well-known fact is the key to an important live-stock shipping problem that deserves special attention, particularly during the fall and winter months, says the Department of Agriculture. The infectious febrile disease, hemorrhagic septicemia—also known as “shipping fever”—is the most serious of a group of cattle maladies which commonly result from neglect or exposure of the animals while in transit.

To aid in reducing the heavy losses which these diseases have been inflicting on the live-stock industry, a committee representing various live-stock interests has studied the situation and formulated its recommendations. The committee's report is based on an exhaustive study of both the scientific and practical aspects of the question, and shows that the losses sustained in the past were largely preventable.

Since the infection of hemorrhagic septicemia is commonly harbored in the system of animals, there is little hope of escaping additional exposure during shipment. It is important, the committee points out, to remember that animals of normal vigor usually resist the infection; hence the need of protecting them against devitalizing influences, such as exposure to severe weather, changes in the routine of feeding and watering, excitement, and overexertion. Irregularity in feeding and watering should be avoided to prevent derangement of the digestive processes.

PROFITABLE YEAR FOR PACKERS

J. E. P.

APART FROM THE INEVITABLE SLIP by the “Allied” packing concern into receivership, the year 1928 was decidedly profitable for the packing industry. All of the small fry made good money, stimulating expansion efforts in the shape of building campaigns, bond issues, and capital-stock emissions. Swift stock joined the upward procession of values, Armour securities were stabilized, and the urbane Tom Wilson resumed dividend payments on his preferred stock. The Cudahys, who never vitiated their financial energy by excursions into the South American sphere, made the most creditable financial showing in years.

Packers' profits were somewhat impaired by the deluge of hogs that descended on the market in September and October, preventing them from collecting anticipated inventory profits on accumulated lard and meats; but, on the whole, it has been a prosperous season for an industry that has been going over a series of hard bumps ever since the war, its path having been made difficult by excessive capital set-ups, much of which represents post-war losses. Between two groups of packers—national and interior, for distinguishment purposes—irrepressible conflict is in progress; a battle that has been disadvantageous both to that industry and to live-stock producers, as it is responsible for cut-throat competition in the sphere of distribution, to the distinct advantage of a swarm of jobbers and other parasites, and possibly of the ultimate consumer.

1929 LIVE-STOCK ESTIMATES

CATTLE NUMBERS during the past year remained practically stationary, according to the estimate of the Department of Agriculture as of January 1, 1929. This means that the decline which began in 1918 now appears to have been checked. Numbers of milk cows and of heifers kept for milk likewise show little change. Value per head of all cattle is given as \$59.35, as compared with \$51.10 a year ago.

Hogs show a radical decrease, amounting to 9 per cent, in which all parts of the country share, except the Far West. Average value, however, is about the same, being \$13.16 on January 1, 1929, as against \$13.01 last year.

In sheep, on the other hand, there is an increase of about 6 per cent. The number now is only 1,500,000 head below that of 1909, when the peak was reached for the last thirty years. Value per head this year is \$10.60, comparing with \$10.25 in 1928.

Horses and mules have continued their decline, and are now at the lowest point in forty years. Prices on both are about \$2.50 per head higher than a year ago.

Estimated numbers of the different classes of live stock on January 1, 1929, and January 1, 1928, are given as follows:

	1929	1928
Cattle	55,751,000	55,681,000
Milk cows	21,820,000	21,824,000
Hogs	54,956,000	60,420,000
Sheep	47,171,000	44,554,000
Horses	14,029,000	14,540,000
Mules	5,447,000	5,532,000

WORLD AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

FINAL PLANS are being perfected for the world agricultural census to be held by the International Institute of Agriculture in 1930, under the direction of Leon M. Estabrook, formerly of the United States Department of Agriculture. Concerning live stock, each government is left free to take the census at any time during the year most convenient to it. The crops to be recorded will be those harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1929, and in the Southern Hemisphere during the season between July 1, 1929, and June 30, 1930. The scope of the census has been enlarged to include forest areas.

More than 99 per cent of the world's agriculture, it is expected, will be included in the census, which is to be the first of a series of decennial stock-takings that will provide comparable data for future studies.

THE CALENDAR

- February 12-13, 1929—Annual Convention of Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, Prescott, Ariz.
- February 19-20, 1929—Hereford Round-Up Sale, Kansas City, Mo.
- February 20-22, 1929—Annual Convention of Western Canada Live Stock Union, Edmonton, Alberta.
- February 23-March 1, 1929—Southwest American Live Stock Show, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- March 1-7, 1929—International Exposition and Live Stock Show, San Antonio, Tex.
- March 4-6, 1929—Annual Convention of Panhandle Live Stock Producers' Association, Amarillo, Tex.
- March 6-8, 1929—Annual Convention of Kansas Live Stock Association, Wichita, Kan.
- March 9-16, 1929—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.
- March 15-16, 1929—Annual Convention of New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, Roswell, N. M.
- March 19-21, 1929—Annual Convention of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, Houston, Tex.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF THE

LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

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Subscription: One Year, \$1; Three Years, \$2.75; Six Years, \$5
Advertising Rates on Request

Volume X FEBRUARY, 1929 Number 9

CAN THE CATTLE INDUSTRY UNITE ON A COMMON LINE OF ATTACK?

ON THE EVENING of January 15 there was held in Denver a conference of representatives of the various branches of the beef trade. The meeting, called by the pure-bred associations, included, besides, breeders of range cattle, feeders, packers, commission men, and members of the Department of Agriculture. As far as could be gathered, its purpose was to survey common ground and investigate the possibility of uniting on a definite course of action, with particular and immediate reference to the pending tariff revision.

Desirable as it undoubtedly would be, from several points of view, to be able to present a solid front in all matters affecting the industry in a national way, THE PRODUCER doubts whether such a thing is feasible. Are there not too many divergent interests comprised within this widely ramified industry to bring them all under one hat? At every recent convention of the American National Live Stock Association there has been a certain amount of sentiment in favor of widening the scope of the organization and increasing its effectiveness by taking in allied branches. Always, however, it has been decided that such action would eventually prove to be a source of weakness rather than of strength. The first trial at bringing together all those who had to do with beef in one form or another was wrecked on this very reef. Later attempts have been no more successful.

The National Association in the past has been glad to co-operate with the packers whenever the policies of the latter ran along lines parallel with its own. At the same time, it has not hesitated to oppose them where

the interests of the packer and the breeder did not coincide. Perfect independence of action has always been among the tenets of the association—an independence which, it was thought, might be endangered through too close affiliation with branches of the industry which in a given case might feel impelled to pursue a different path.

For instance, it is not quite clear to us to what extent we may count on support from the packers in our demand for higher duties on meats. The packers—some of them—have vast South American interests. Would it not be natural for them to favor admission to the United States of the surplus production of their South American plants that cannot easily, or profitably, be disposed of in Europe?

Similarly with regard to the relations of the feeders of the East with the breeders of the West and South. Obviously there is a point where the interests of these two groups clash. The calves bred on the ranges are the raw material of the beef-manufacturer. The breeder naturally wants the highest price he can get for this necessary raw material, just as the feeder, equally naturally, wants to buy it as cheaply as possible. How can these preferences be reconciled when the question arises of increasing the tariff on Canadian and Mexican stockers?

In the case of the average commission man, or commission men's organization, there are even greater difficulties. It is true that they are, or should be, as interested as the producer in seeing the home industry prosper. But, in order to create that atmosphere which is essential for co-ordinated effort, it is necessary that they show a less belligerent attitude in their dealings with the men whom they serve—necessary that they cease obstructing the establishment of reasonable charges for the work they perform, as determined by such a disinterested arbiter as the Secretary of Agriculture; that they quit their boycotting tactics against independent producer organizations; and that they show more of the spirit of toleration and fellow-feeling than they have evinced in the past.

A "solid front" all along the line is a beautiful ideal. But as long as now this, now that division of the shock troops refuses to advance in a common attack, and either lays down its arms or goes over to the enemy, it will remain little more than an ideal.

Much good-will prevailed at the Denver meeting. If a certain vagueness of outlook likewise was in evidence, no one probably was surprised. As a definite upshot, however, a committee was appointed to prepare the soil for the seed of concord, and a subcommittee was named to proceed to Washington for the purpose of interpreting to Congress the desires of the industry in the matter of the tariff—or so much of the industry as could be rallied around this demand.

THE PRODUCER, while commending the spirit back

of this movement, and wishing it success in all it attempts to do that will further the real welfare of the stockman, yet cannot refrain from asking whether the same object might not have been accomplished through the medium of existing organizations.

WHAT OF THE TARIFF?

OPPORTUNITY is now afforded Congress to redeem the liberal pledges given the farmers and live-stock men of the country by the victorious party and its presidential candidate during last year's campaign. Extensive hearings are being held by the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, with a view to laying a foundation for the proposed tariff revision, the chief aim of which will be to give adequate recognition to the interests of agriculture.

Everybody has had his spokesman at Washington, putting in his claims. These, if admitted, would amount to a substantial increase in present duties on live stock and its products all along the line. Representatives of western organizations were unanimous in their demands, which included live animals, meats, hides, and wool.

Not unexpectedly, some opposition developed from the thickly populated industrial communities of the East, which in matters of this kind assume a monopoly in speaking for the consumer. How much weight the arguments of this element will carry in the final vote must be left to conjecture. The atmosphere in the committee room seemed distinctly sympathetic to those who pleaded for a higher measure of protection for the domestic industry, and it may safely be asserted that not for many years have circumstances looked so auspicious for getting a more even distribution of tariff benefits. This applies both to the traditionally protectionistic Republican party and—though perhaps in minor degree—to the recent proselytes, the southern Democrats.

On a few of the individual schedules, and the reasons for advancing them, we present the following summary:

LIVE CATTLE

Notwithstanding our present import duties of 2 cents a pound on cattle weighing 1,050 pounds and up, and 1½ cents on those weighing less, we have lately been taking practically all of Canada's cattle surplus and much of northern Mexico's. Imports of live cattle during the eleven months ending November, 1928, were 458,558 head. For the whole year 1927 they were 443,459 head. Comparative prices at Winnipeg and Chicago about January 1, 1929, were as below (per 100 pounds):

Winnipeg		Chicago	
Good slaughter steers (average)—		Good to choice slaughter steers—	
1,000-1,200 lbs.....	\$9.00	1,100-1,500 lbs.....	\$13.25-16.25
700-1,000 lbs.....	8.55	950-1,100 lbs.....	13.25-17.00
Stockers and feeders—		Stockers and feeders—	
800 lbs. down.....	7.00	800 lbs. down.....	10.75-12.00
800 lbs. up.....	7.43	800 lbs. up.....	10.75-12.00

Leaving transportation charges out of the reckoning, if we deduct from the Chicago prices the \$2 and \$1.50 per 100 pounds, respectively, that the duty amounts to, we get a figure so low that it is evident that the Canadian breeder, in order to make any profit at all, must operate at a cost considerably below the average on this side of the line.

It is true that these Canadian and Mexican shipments so far have been absorbed without any serious disturbance in our domestic market. It is equally true that, if the present price-level in this country is maintained—as it should be—Canada especially will be tempted, and is in position, to expand her production to a point where the numbers available for export will be large enough to exert a decidedly depressing influence on our prices.

As far as possible, home markets should be preserved for home producers. To this principle pretty nearly everybody subscribes these days. With the proper kind of encouragement, the United States can supply its growing population with all the beef they need for an indefinite period. In order to insure this result, the tariff on live cattle should be at least doubled.

DRESSED BEEF

Of fresh and frozen beef we imported, during the eleven months ending November, 1928, 44,808,000 pounds—principally from Canada and New Zealand; and of cured and canned meats of all kinds, 71,020,000 pounds, of which South America sent us the larger portion. For the calendar year 1927 we shipped in 42,574,000 pounds of fresh beef and 58,837,000 pounds of cured and canned meats. Our imports of these commodities are thus increasing. Comparative cost data on dressed beef (at wholesale) follow:

Argentine Beef—London		Domestic Beef—New York	
Hindquarters, 1st and 2d grades—		Choice steers—	
Per 100 lbs.....	\$12.00-13.50	Per 100 lbs.....	\$22.00-25.00
Forequarters—		Good steers—	
Per 100 lbs.....	9.00-10.00	Per 100 lbs.....	20.00-22.50

The duty on fresh beef and veal is 3 cents a pound. Ocean freight, if we are not mistaken, between Buenos Aires and London is 1½ cents a pound; between Buenos Aires and New York, 2 cents a pound.

Looking at these figures, is it any wonder that Argentine cattle-raisers and meat-producers are casting expectant glances toward the United States market, where, at present prevailing prices, they would realize around 5 cents more on every pound of their chilled beef than they are getting in England?

It is to guard against this menace of being undersold in their own markets that our beef-producers are asking for such an increase in tariff rates as will afford them real protection. Even with the best intentions in the world, our government would be compelled to rescind the sanitary embargo on imports of fresh meats from South America the moment it should be proved to its satisfaction that foot-and-mouth disease in that part of the world no longer was a danger to the health of our herds. That the result would be immediate and overwhelming needs no demonstration. The duty on beef of all descriptions should likewise be at least doubled.

HIDES

For the eleven months ending November, 1928, we imported 303,661,000 pounds of cattle hides and calfskins. During the whole year 1927 imports were 281,303,000 pounds; in 1926, 195,653,000 pounds. These shipments, too, are rapidly increasing.

Hides have been on the free list since 1914. It is time they were taken off. Our cattlemen are entitled to the extra

\$2 or \$3 that the duty of 6 cents a pound on green and 15 cents a pound on dry hides, demanded for several years past by the American National Live Stock Association, should add to the price which they are receiving for their animals. To them this increment would mean something; to the consumer, if no more than the proportionate share of the advance were added to each pair of shoes that he buys, the difference would be negligible.

The splendid showing presented during the hearings at Washington by the western live-stock interests, and so much of the Corn Belt as sees eye to eye with them in this matter, should be vigorously continued. Write to your representatives in Congress in support of these higher rates, and do not let up until a bill is passed which recognizes the justice in the demand of agriculture for equal treatment with manufacturing industries.

ARGENTINA AGAIN VEXED WITH US

RENEWED EVIDENCE OF IRRITATION against the United States is reported from Buenos Aires, where only a short time ago the good-will visit of President-elect Hoover seemed to have put a damper on the traditional ill-feeling toward "the colossus of the North." The flare-up of the ever-smoldering antagonism this time is due to the bill, now before our Senate, which proposes to assign government-appointed experts to our consular offices for the purpose of investigating foreign agricultural conditions. To this procedure the Argentine press objects.

Two years ago, it will be remembered, a similar proposal by the United States Tariff Commission to send experts to Argentina to look into the cost of production of corn and flaxseed in that country met with such strenuous opposition on the part of those who were to be investigated that the matter was dropped. Quite logically, Argentina reasoned that she herself might be the victim of any hospitality she extended to our representatives, in that whatever information was obtained would, as likely as not, be used as justification for raising our import duties against her. European officialdom, approached with feelers in the same direction, showed a like absence of enthusiasm.

Putting ourselves in the place of the other fellow, it is not difficult to understand how he feels about it. Who would like to have his business pried into by outsiders to his injury? However, it is precisely here—in the assumption that the result of the investigation will be to hurt the one being investigated—that the vulnerable point of the argument lies. Unwillingness to lay one's cards on the table always leads to suspicion that there is something which it is not considered prudent to reveal.

If production costs of Argentina, or any other country, as compared with those of the United States, are high enough to make an advance in the duties on imports unjustifiable on the ground of equalizing the difference, why not let us find out for ourselves? Being left to guess, we are liable to err on the wrong side—from the standpoint of the foreigner.

NO RAPID REHABILITATION POSSIBLE

J. E. P.

ONE OF THE NUMEROUS PROFESSORS engaged in "doping" out the future of the cattle market predicts an increase of a million head in the visible supply within a short period, on the theory that production follows price. Undoubtedly it does, but not always with celerity. The sheep "come-back" is an example of this.

How the heralds of rapid rehabilitation of the beef-cattle industry get that way is a puzzle. They ignore the fact that a large percentage of the females on which the industry is dependent for the annual calf crop are over-age and must go to the butcher within the next two or three years.

M. D. Reynolds

W. D. REYNOLDS, a former member of the Executive Committee of the American National Live Stock Association, passed away at his home in Fort Worth, Texas, on January 4, at the age of eighty-one. Mr. Reynolds had been in the cattle business all his life, having ranched at different times in Colorado, North Dakota, and Montana. For a good many years cattle owned by him were driven from Texas to North Dakota. At the time of his death his properties were confined to Texas.

TARIFF COMMISSION INVESTIGATES PRODUCTION COSTS

UNDER ITS GENERAL POWERS, the Tariff Commission in May, 1928, instituted an investigation of cattle and beef, including canned beef and beef by-products, such as hides, tallow, and oleo oil, we learn from the commission's annual report for 1928.

In July, field-work was begun to obtain costs of cattle production in the range states, costs of fattening cattle in the Corn Belt, and ranch costs in the western provinces of Canada. For domestic costs, the commission used a series of studies made by state agricultural colleges and experiment stations, in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture.

Field-work to secure costs of packing and marketing beef and its by-products in the United States was completed in October. Through the co-operation of domestic packing-houses having plants in Argentina and Uruguay, comparative data are now being gathered for those countries.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

IN CONGRESS

ARGUMENTS FOR ADVANCING the import duties on live animals and meat products, and for a tariff on hides, were presented at a three-day hearing on agricultural tariff schedules before the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives at Washington last month by representatives of western producer organizations. For the American National Live Stock Association appeared Victor Culbertson, of Silver City, New Mexico; Charles E. Collins, of Kit Carson, Colorado; and F. E. Mollin, of Norfolk, Nebraska. The newly formed "Committee on Beef Policy" was represented by Dan D. Casement, of Manhattan, Kansas. Dr. B. F. Davis, of Denver, and R. T. Burdick, of the Colorado Agricultural College, spoke for the Colorado Stock Growers' Association and the Colorado Farm Bureau, and Claude H. Rees, of Rifle, for the Colorado State Legislature. Robert Graham, of Alliance, Nebraska, appeared for the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association. Dr. S. W. McClure, of Bliss, Idaho, represented the National Wool Growers' Association in the hearings on live-stock and meat schedules, the wool tariff having been booked for later consideration. Able support was furnished the stockmen by Professor John L. Coulter, president of North Dakota Agricultural College, and by numerous spokesmen for farming interests in the Middle West and South. Such members of the committee as took an active part in the hearings seemed to favor the viewpoint of those who pleaded for more adequate protection for agriculture.

A note of opposition was injected into the discussion by a gentleman from New York City, representing chain stores, who filed a brief protesting against any increase in duties.

Practical unanimity existed among stockmen's representatives as to the rates to be asked for. These, in the main, are as follows:

Live slaughter cattle, 4 cents a pound; stockers and feeders, 3 cents a pound (present rates, 2 cents a pound on cattle weighing more than 1,050 pounds, and 1½ cents on those weighing less).

Fresh beef and veal, 8 cents a pound (now 3 cents).

Live sheep and goats, \$3 a head (now \$2).

Fresh mutton, 5 cents a pound (now 2½ cents).

Fresh lamb, 8 cents a pound (now 4 cents).

Live hogs, 3 cents a pound (now ½ cent).

Fresh pork, 5 cents a pound (now ¾ cent).

Ham and bacon, 6 cents a pound (now 2 cents).

Lard, 4.6 cents a pound (now 1 cent).

Oleo oil, 3.7 cents a pound (now 1 cent).

Extracts of meat, 30 cents a pound (now 15 cents).

Fresh meats not specifically provided for, 40 per cent ad valorem (now 20 per cent).

Hides, 6 cents a pound on green and 15 cents a pound on dry (now on the free list).

All told, more than two hundred representatives of farming interests had given notice of a desire to testify. Advances are being sought by dairy farmers, grain- and tobacco-growers, and practically everybody who derives his living, directly or indirectly, from the soil.

The present outlook is that the tariff and general farm-relief legislation will be the big questions to be dealt with by the special session of the new Congress expected to be called by President Hoover early in the spring.

A bill has been introduced by Representative Mansfield, of Texas, to place a tariff on cowhides of 5 cents a pound and on calfskins of 16 cents a pound. The Boot and Shoe Workers' Union announces that it will oppose the placing of a duty on hides, and favor a duty on finished shoes of at least 35 per cent.

Representative Strong, of Kansas, has introduced a bill for increasing the duty on a number of major farm commodities. The bill would impose a duty of 5 cents a pound on hides, raise the duty on corn from 15 to 30 cents and on wheat from 42 to 45 cents a bushel, and afford substantial advances on all dairy products.

* * *

An effort is going to be made to obtain action at the present session on the Box-Harris bill for putting Mexican immigration on the quota basis. This bill, if enacted, would reduce the number of immigrants from around 60,000 to 1,500 a year. Provided the beet-sugar and other interests opposed to the measure will withdraw their opposition, an amendment will be attached postponing full application of the provisions of the law for two years, during which time 25,000 agricultural laborers would be admitted each year.

* * *

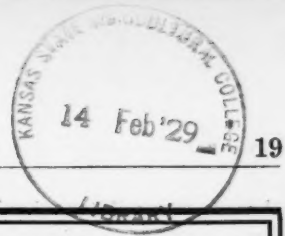
A bill to classify all imitation butters, manufactured of vegetable and animal oils, as oleomargarine, and subject them to the same tax as is imposed on that commodity, has been introduced in the House by Representative Haugen, of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, which has reported the bill favorably. (The present tax on margarine is 10 cents a pound on colored and ¼ cent on uncolored.)

* * *

The Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives has reported favorably the Norbeck refuge bill, which seeks to establish a federal policy in the creation of national wild-life sanctuaries. According to this measure, areas will be leased or purchased whereon it will be illegal at any time to kill ducks, geese, or other migratory birds protected under treaty with Canada. The bill passed the Senate last spring, and since that time has been reposing in the House committee.

PREDATORY-ANIMAL CONTROL

IN COMPLIANCE WITH a request from Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture has transmitted a report on the feasibility of a ten-year co-operative program of predatory-animal control, recommending an annual appropriation of \$1,378,700 to carry the program into effect. Such a program,



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the secretary states, should make it possible, not only to prevent constant reinfestation of cleared areas, but to conduct work on the public domain and on land where hitherto it has been impossible to operate for lack of funds.

No complete eradication of predatory animals is contemplated. Such eradication, in some cases, is considered neither practicable nor advisable. All that is planned is to bring the animals under such control as to render their damage negligible. Continuation of support by the states and other co-operators at the present ratio of about two and a half to one contributed by the government is assured.

It is estimated that the toll taken by coyotes, wolves, mountain lions, and bobcats in live stock and game amounts to \$30,000,000 a year. Less sensational, but more widespread, is the injury caused by rodents, such as prairie-dogs, ground-squirrels, pocket-gophers, jack-rabbits, and, neither last nor least, the common house-rat. These losses—principally from grass and grain devoured and nursery stock killed—annually run into the hundreds of millions.

MORE LIBERAL APPROPRIATION NEEDED FOR BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

NEW ACTIVITIES undertaken by the Biological Survey during the past fiscal year, according to Paul G. Redington, chief of the bureau, submitting his annual report, are the following: inauguration of studies of the relative abundance of migratory wild fowl from year to year, through systematic censuses taken by private co-operators; research into the effects of mammals and birds on forest production; successful cross-breeding of Alaskan reindeer with native caribou, resulting in the birth of fawns materially heavier; establishment of a rabbit experiment station at Fontana, California; co-operative investigations of diseases of foxes; studies of the food of the English sparrow, of the food requirements of the Wyoming elk, and of the administration of game animals and birds on reservations.

Among important measures for the welfare of our game are mentioned the authorization by Congress of a refuge for migratory birds in the extensive Bear River marshes in Utah, and greater expedition in the work of acquiring land for the Upper Mississippi River Wild-Life Refuge through congressional aid and private donations of suitable land.

There is great need of a unified program for the protection of wild life, says Mr. Redington, and an insistent demand on the part of the public for more effective enforcement of the migratory-bird regulations. In connection with the latter subject, it is pointed out that the appropriation available allows for the full-time employment of only twenty-four salaried game protectors, each of whom must on the average cover more than two states.

Congress has requested that there be submitted to it at the next session a plan that will operate to insure adequate control of predatory animals throughout the country.

NEW DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT has been appointed to succeed Stephen T. Mather as director of the National Park Service, under the Department of the Interior. Mr. Albright has been with the department since 1913, and in 1917, when Mr. Mather organized the service, became assistant director. Later he was made superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

GAME IN NATIONAL PARKS

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HERDS of big game animals, several of which have been threatened with extermination, is announced as a result of the census taken in 1928 in the national parks. Caribou, ranging in the region of Mount McKinley, in southern Alaska, now are estimated to number more than 100,000. This park was created in 1917, largely for the purpose of protecting the caribou and mountain sheep, menaced by the opening-up of the country through the completion of the Alaska Railroad. Of mountain sheep there are, all told, 51,784 in the parks, nearly all of them in McKinley.

The buffalo herd in Yellowstone has grown so large that it has become necessary to reduce it through sale and slaughter. It is aimed to keep the number down to a maximum of 1,000 individuals. Antelopes have increased until there are at present 625 of them in Yellowstone. A smaller herd is in Lassen Volcanic Park in California.

Among the most popular of the park animals are the deer and the black bears. The census counted 1,465 bears in all the parks. Deer are very numerous, there being estimated to be a total of 57,200 California deer in Yosemite, Sequoia, and Lassen Volcanic in California; 9,230 mule-deer in Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain, Grand Canyon, and Glacier, with smaller herds in other parks; and 2,372 white-tail deer in Glacier and Mount Rainier Parks.

A majority of the elk are in or around Yellowstone. In 1927 it was estimated that there were between 15,000 and 20,000 animals in the northern and southern herds at that place, but disease has since thinned their ranks, until now there are not over 10,000 in the northern herd. Scientific investigations are being carried on to determine just what is the trouble.

Besides these, in Yellowstone and McKinley there are smaller bands of moose, believed to number between 700 and 800 individuals.

FEDERAL-AID ROAD CONSTRUCTION

THE SUM OF \$73,125,000 has been apportioned by the Secretary of Agriculture among the states as federal aid in the construction of roads for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1929. These funds are administered by the Bureau of Public Roads and will be expended according to the same provisions which have governed in the past, the states in general paying an amount equal to that of the federal government.

The shares of the range states in this appropriation are as below:

Arizona	\$1,061,111
California	2,495,345
Colorado	1,388,755
Idaho	933,902
Kansas	2,058,305
Montana	1,554,060
Nebraska	1,586,299
Nevada	960,375
New Mexico	1,189,085
North Dakota	1,197,586
Oklahoma	1,748,857
Oregon	1,191,989
South Dakota	1,229,282
Texas	4,531,162
Utah	848,592
Washington	1,149,489
Wyoming	939,536

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THE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK MARKET IN JANUARY

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., February 1, 1929.

BETWEEN THE UNPOPULAR BIG STEER and the ever-popular pork-chop, the fat-cattle market has been on a ragged edge all winter. January unleashed a package of trouble on the feeder camp. This trouble was initiated when the cattle were laid in last fall, and had been abundantly heralded. In numbers, the January cattle run around the western market circle was slightly less than that of the same month last year, but the proportion of steers weighing 1,200 pounds and up was excessive, especially the plain and rough kind. With fewer heavy cattle, much of the trouble referred to might not have happened; at least, the blow would have been mitigated. As it was, feeders took their medicine—some philosophically, others with wry faces; but distaste was evident. Heavy beef always encounters sales resistance at the distributive stage, especially at current prices, which are high, while fresh pork has been cheap all winter. In the case of light beef there was little evidence of this resistance, although the continuous advance in corn late in the month aggravated matters by jettisoning a lot of warmed-up light steers that under more favorable conditions would have been carried along. This unexpected addition to supply also exerted a demoralizing influence on fat-cow and heifer trade, putting that branch of the market off its normal January stride.

Low-Priced Steers Most Active Sellers

Few heavy cattle sold above \$15 during the month, and, to beat \$14, quality was required, plain bullocks selling down to \$12.50. As January worked along, finished cattle of all weights became scarce, but the whole market was depressed by a constant surplus of the other kinds. Thousands of half-fat yearlings, with low dressing capacity, were cut loose in an effort to economize corn, and owing to lack of confidence in the immediate future of the market. Low-price steers usually had a reasonably active market, although late in the month even this phase of the trade showed symptoms of stagnation. As usual, however, the cheaper grades of steers showed margins over initial cost. Bow-wows, heretics, little yellow-hammers, and other types of common and nondescript bullocks, and the phony yearling kind, were wanted, reflecting an effort on the part of killers and meat-venders to get away from cost, even at the expense of quality. Until late in the month, feeders permitted killers to get away with a lot of useful light steers, carrying a decent beef-covering, without competition. Then they came into the market, acquiring sufficient confidence in future beef-making operations to take cattle back to the country that weighed 1,100 pounds. During the month a large percentage of the fed cattle and yearlings sold within a range of \$12 to \$14 per cwt., with a respectable string of \$10 to \$11.50 transactions and a scattering of low-grade steers down to \$9.

Canner Cows Also in Brisk Demand

Two outstanding phases of winter cattle trade have been demand for low-grade cows on the canning and cutting order at \$6 and \$8, and bologna bulls selling at \$9 to \$9.75, and occa-

sionally \$10. Good cows from \$9.50 up were always in a rut, and the heifer market, outside a few finished yearlings, needed the services of a competent apologist much of the time. This was partly attributable to the presence of a smear of cheap steers which figured less in the beef and were not so wasty. The whole market was in striking contrast to that of January, 1928, when heavy bullocks of all kinds were scarce and an \$18.75 top was made, although a subsequent slump, when the main crop showed up, precipitated a break of \$4 per cwt. Heavy cattle moved later last year; hence it is a logical assumption that the crop will be garnered earlier on this occasion.

Hogs Show Fair Advance

Hogs advanced about \$1 per cwt. during the month. At the winter low point, drove cost worked down to \$8.40, but a \$9.75 to \$9.90 market during the final week demonstrated underlying strength. As in the case of cattle, the marketward movement of the crop started earlier than last year, and is expected to subside during the period when maximum volume was attained late last winter. That hogs have been cheap and worth the money was demonstrated by the greedy manner in which eastern shippers and small local packers grabbed a lion's share of the open market offering, the coterie of big packers contenting themselves with the residue to supplement heavy direct receipts. In Monday of the third week in January packers had 40,000 hogs direct to their plants in a run of 90,000 at Chicago—the heaviest of the season. On the following Monday receipts were only 30,000, of which packers had 12,000 direct. These figures will explain the erratic trend of the market.

Trend of Values Upward

Assertion recently made by a Packington spokesman that packers do not always play a bear role in hog-trading was verified by their actions one day late in January, when their low bid was \$9.70, compared with \$9.10 the previous day. Whatever the object may have been, the resultant froth was soon blown away, yard traders taking severe punishment

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3105 Walnut Street

Denver, Colorado

on the break, which may have been the purpose of the obviously fictitious appreciation. Nevertheless, the trend of swine values is upward, and probably will continue to be. If hogs were \$2 per cwt. higher, the invalid cattle market would have an opportunity to recuperate. A fresh-meat market burdened with cheap pork, unloaded by country packers, is not conducive to a healthy beef trade.

Likelihood of an Erratic Market

Two years of cheap hogs have discouraged growers. This is evidenced by recent heavy slaughter of females, and will be reflected in reduced farrowing next spring and fall. Growers contend that a short crop of hogs realizes more money than excess production, and past market performance bears this out. But the pendulum of production has a persistent habit of swinging to an extreme in either direction, and will continue to do so unless some method of stabilizing production can be devised. Some of the Einsteins in the professorial element are working their gray matter in an effort to solve this problem, but without getting beyond the realm of theory. They have made sufficient progress, however, to organize a national society with that object, undeterred by futility of former efforts in the same sphere. The so-called hog cycle, which the scientists, professors, high-brows, statisticians, economists, and others of that ilk propose to "iron out," has a persistent habit of recurring, facilitated by the fecundity of the species. That it will be an erratic market all summer is a reasonably safe prediction, January events casting shadows ahead. When the hog market is stabilized, politicians will desist from

stuffing public pay-rolls and integrity will dominate the personnel of the prohibition unit.

Lamb Gain Consolidated

After this season's spectacular lamb market, pacifists may actually outlaw war. Just how it happened has not been explained, at least lucidly, as there has been no corresponding supply curtailment at western markets. A \$17 midwinter lamb market was certainly not on the cards. The high spot at Chicago in January was \$17.85 per cwt., although a speculator paid it, and the quotation was out of line. However, a lot of lambs sold anywhere from \$16.75 to \$17.50, and below the \$17 line sorting was light, killers being constantly under the necessity of buying for numbers—a trading condition that always enables mediocrity and trash to hold an advantage. Scarcity of fat sheep enabled ewes to sell up to \$10.50, showing that a few people still eat heavy mutton. Both markets were in striking contrast to conditions of the corresponding period last year, when \$12 to \$14 took the bulk of lambs, and fat ewes sold at \$6.25 to \$7 per cwt. These prices prompted Colorado feeders to hike to Chicago, invite packers into a conference, and talk things over—a movement that was attended with tangible results, as, by the end of February, the top on lambs was up to \$16.65, and the last round of March saw the quotation at \$17.25, the culminating point being \$23 at the middle of April. The gyrations of that market were also mysterious.

Speculation Playing a Part

There is, however, a reason for everything. High cost of beef stimulated lamb consumption this winter; Colorado was tardy in throwing its chapeau into the market ring; and commercial feeders on a more or less extensive scale, who were mainly responsible for keeping the January market filled to the brim last year, were out of the game. Farmer-feeders all over the Corn Belt, discouraged by loss on lamb-feeding the two previous seasons, cashed early and fed lightly, and eastern markets were all but bare, sending shipping orders in considerable volume to Chicago, thus creating competition for packers. Speculative activity was also a factor, yard traders paying top prices day after day. How they got away with it is explained by the filling process, which enabled them to stuff lambs overweight and get big money for the gain. At \$13 for this addition to weight the game was impossible; at \$17 it was highly profitable.

CATTLE-MARKET PROSPECTS INTERPRETED

J. E. P.

A MIXED CATTLE SITUATION is somewhat enigmatical. It can be doped several ways. The stocker feature has a strong undertone, suggesting that available supply is in strong hands, and that, within reasonable limits, it is a seller's market. A reverse condition exists in fat-cattle circles, where the buyer is dominant, and will be until liquidation of the crop of steers laid in last fall by the feeding element has been liquidated. Present conditions are never static; always change impends, and there is reasonable assurance that, when it happens, change will be violent.

The basic situation is indisputably healthy. All winter the fat-cattle market has been off its stride by a disturbed feed situation. Not only did the domestic corn crop fail to live up to its advertisement, but a complication was injected when the Argentine corn crop was cut in two by drought. New York speculators promptly took the bull side of the corn market, putting the Chicago price up to a dollar, and incidentally advancing cost of putting gains on cattle everywhere. Feeders

FOR SALE IN CARLOAD LOTS

Registered
HEREFORD

Two-Year-Old Bulls

BRED FOR THE RANGE

J. M. Carey & Brother

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

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GOOD SHORTHORN BULLS

Sire feeder calves that command a premium. Champion feeders at Denver four out of five past years were Shorthorns.

We will assist you to locate suitable Shorthorns.

American Shorthorn Breeders' Association

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began cashing, not only cattle ready to go to market, but a raft of light and merely warmed-up steers that under normal conditions would not have figured in the winter beef supply. Conditions would have been bad enough had the market been required to absorb only the crop of heavy steers laid in last fall, but the added load was a last straw that broke the back-bone of the market, creating a confused condition, in which sense of intrinsic values was lost. As usually happens in such emergencies, the beef market collapsed—probably for the good and sufficient reason that distributors maintained prices to the army of ultimate consumers, and, pork being cheap, that meat was substituted.

For some reason or other, beef seems to be handicapped. Its consumption in public eating-places, such as dining-cars, hotels, and restaurants, has been seriously restricted as a result of high prices. A small army of domestic scientists, with access to the channels of publicity, treats beef as a non-existent commodity. A chain design of daily menus, appearing in practically every Sunday sheet in the country, rarely includes beef, and then only as Hamburg steak, pot-roast, or in other disguised forms. Retail organizations have adopted the practice of advising the public concerning the "best buy" in meats, and, if beef has ever been mentioned in that capacity, it has escaped my notice. To aggravate matters, much of the beef getting into distributive channels is of a decidedly inferior quality, which prejudices the public against it. Complaint that "good" beef is not to be had is general. Nondescript and trashy product may be merchandised at greater profit to the vender than that of desirable quality, which is an all-potent reason why neither weight, quality, nor condition is an asset when a load of good bullocks reaches the market, while a bunch of "skates" gets over the scales with celerity, and cheap cows are considered prize packages by killers. In the matter of beef, the consuming public is consistently and persistently imposed on.

Obviously the fat-cattle market cannot continue indefinitely in its present condition. Nothing in this world is static, and every road reaches a turn. Although the fall purchase of stockers and feeders was on a much larger scale than in 1927, it broke off suddenly in October, when contracts had been filled and feeders awoke to a realization that they had loaded up with a crop of cattle at prices that threatened loss in the finality of the operation. Late in October, feeders were definitely "off" heavy cattle, and few have been laid in since. Meanwhile, replacement of all kinds of cattle has been seriously restricted. Purchasing at the pasture was practically suspended, and the November-to-January output by the central markets has been far below that of the corresponding previous period. Cold weather in January, together with a steadily declining fat-cattle market, combined with rising corn prices, gave the stock-cattle alleys a deserted appearance. Last summer's condition, when feeders competed keenly with killers on steers with a beef-covering, was reversed, the country making no claim to such cattle. In fact, killers secured thousands that under normal conditions would have gone back to get weight or growth, or both. This waste of raw material is regrettable from several angles, congesting the beef-rail temporarily, and jettisoning immature cattle that should figure in the prospective beef supply. The philosopher who asserted that the weather was the most potent factor in agricultural production said a mouthful.

Now, it must follow that three or four months of restricted replacement in feed-lots, with liquidation running a somewhat riotous course meanwhile, must sooner or later develop a bare spot in the available supply of finished cattle. That happened last year and in 1927; that it will be repeated is a cinch bet. An advancing corn market never has found,

and probably never will find, the fat-cattle market well supplied with finished steers during the latter half of the year. My prophecy—and it is as likely to be right as wrong—is that the bare spot will develop earlier this year than last, when it happened prior to the upturn in 1927. Handicapped as beef may be in the distributive process, the fact remains that a certain quantity is needed daily to satisfy a stated demand.

Just when liquidation of the crop of heavy steers tucked away last fall will be accomplished is anybody's guess. Sixty days hence, if not earlier, should bring relief. This grist of big steers has been a burden on the market all winter, and not until it is out of the way will the atmosphere clarify. Immediately thereafter a turn for the better is inevitable, the probability being that values of the general run of steers will regain a good part of the depreciation of the past three months. At that, it must be realized that cattle values are still high, and




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HEREFORD
CATTLE**

T. E. MITCHELL & SON

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ALBERT, NEW MEXICO

that beef is required to carry the load, as hides and all kinds of by-product are relatively low in value. The beef of fat cattle costing \$12 to \$15 per cwt. on the hoof comes high in the carcass, and, when excessive distribution costs are added, the consumer balks. No one in his sober senses will contend that stock cattle at \$10 to \$11 per cwt. are cheap; and that is the basis on which they have been vending most of the winter, which, in conjunction with advancing cost of corn, has undoubtedly restricted replacement.

Packingtown senses a high cattle market all summer. The big-wigs in that sphere have revised their ideas concerning supply. In other words, they have quit kidding themselves on the subject. They are seriously concerned about beef volume when the winter crop of fat cattle is in. Such liquidation as is now in progress cannot but exert a favorable influence on grass-cattle prices, even assuming that feeders do not give killers the same competition on fleshy steers with weight that was largely responsible for abnormally high prices from July to September, 1928. That western grass cattle with age were closely garnered last summer, in response to the incentive of high prices, is not open to dispute, and, in any event, feeders will need some cattle. A \$2 advance in fat steers, coupled with a promising corn prospect, might cause them to forget all about the trouble they encountered this winter. Buying furores are easily started, and invariably run their course. Feed is always the important factor, and the corn promise next August will be the gauge of feeder-buying.

Just what the bovine population of the country is, no one is in a position to know—not even a statistician advantageously located, in a strategic sense, at Washington. The government report as of January 1, 1929, gives "all cattle" as 55,751,000, against 55,681,000 last year, and 56,832,000 in 1927. Deduct 21,820,000 milk cows, and, theoretically at least, you have the beef-animal population. Milk-cow population comparisons for 1927, 1928, and 1929 show little variation, accord-

ing to this government guesstimate, which leaves the inference that beef cattle have decreased in numbers during two years about 1,000,000 head, or from 35,031,000 to 33,931,000. As is always the case, the statement will elicit difference of opinion.

COMMERCIAL CATTLE INDUSTRY ON SOUND BASIS

J. E. P.

DENVER'S JANUARY STOCK-CATTLE SALE terminated a period of suspense in commercial cattle circles, especially with respect to replacement. The event demonstrated that it is a sellers' market, and probably will continue to be. Prior to the Denver event, confidence was lacking. Sales results thereat had the logical effect of infusing confidence, valorizing everything wearing a hide not in actual preparation for the butcher.

As a people, we are peculiarly and illogically volatile. Even the Latins are not equal to our performances. It is true that we do not indulge in male osculation, as does the Frenchman under emotion; but we are responsible for many types of dampfoolishness involving money or credit. The senseless cattle-buying furore of last fall was an example of this. We are either on a drunk or nursing the subsequent and inevitable headache that follows a debauch. Alternate booms and busts are demoralizing, although characteristic of the American people, regardless of the sphere of activity.

Now that the Denver sale has demonstrated that the commercial cattle industry is on a sound basis, the season's procession may be expected to move. What is happening in the fat-cattle market meanwhile is ephemeral, although rough on feeders. Since the break in cattle prices last September, investment has been seriously curtailed, but symptoms of activity are extant. Always the germ of speculation is latent, ready to jump into activity at the least opportunity. While it will be illogical to expect repetition of the burst of speculative activity that convulsed the industry last summer, the thing is not impossible. Feeders, however, are likely to be wary, unless their memories are short, and they forget overnight what has happened to them this winter.

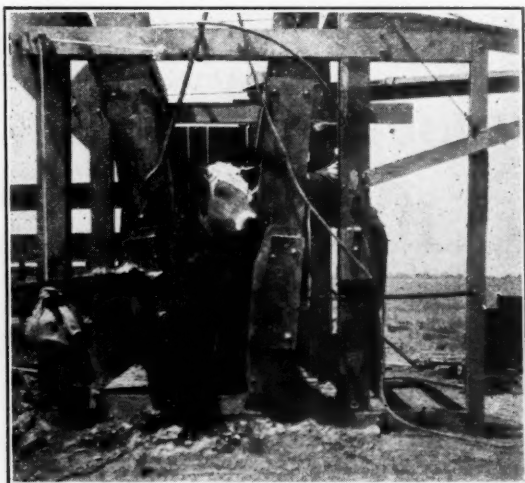
That the whole country is cattle-minded is evident. The crop of steers laid in by feeders last fall is being rapidly whittled down, and will be replaced, if possible, under more promising feed and fat-cattle market conditions. At the moment, pasture replenishment is of major importance, and, unless all the information available, statistical and otherwise, is misleading, that task will be difficult.

Naturally, prospective buyers have avoided showing their hands, as that policy would merely have apprised cattle-owners of the security of their position. The Denver sale had that effect. Prior to the event, considerable doubt existed as to its financial outcome, some of the "wise guys" venturing the opinion that the offering would not be cleared, at least at satisfactory prices; but when the jig was up, results were far in excess of anticipation, and many had not secured the cattle they needed. Hiking hastily to the country in quest of bargains, they found that cattle-owners had been apprised of what happened by radio, and that no cheap cattle were on the horizon or elsewhere.

January witnessed little trading in the Southwest, where the bulk of the available stock-cattle supply is located. Prospective buyers have been on the ground somewhat numerously, but have been backward in "talking turkey." The situation in the Southwest is thus described by C. A. Studer, of Canadian, Texas, owner of the Anvil Park Hereford herd:

The Yokum Cattle Squeezer

The best in America. Self-adjusting. Handles all sizes alike. Will hold a 90-pound calf or a 2,000-pound bull. Both side-walls work at same time, catching animal from feet up. Has been in use ten years. Every user satisfied with it.



PATENTED

Detailed instructions and blue-print showing construction, together with the two necessary cast rollers, \$25.

J. C. YOKUM

808 Eleventh Street

Oakland, Calif.

"I have covered the entire north Panhandle country recently, to find that we have a situation wholly different from that of former years. Steers coming two and three years old are scarce, and there is no abundance of yearlings. Such yearlings as I saw lacked quality. A number of New Mexico calves, yearlings, and two-year-olds were shipped in last fall to be wintered in our country, and they will furnish the Kansas pastureman with about all his selection this spring. We have some good native yearlings, but they are fewer than in recent years.

"There are less cattle in the oil-mill pens than in former years. Many have but one-third to one-half of their seasonal requirements, forcing them to buy fresh cattle for the purpose of disposing of their by-products—hulls and meal—which are difficult to sell. The price of hulls is less than at any time in the last two years, as a result. Formerly the oil-mills fed nothing but aged steers; now they are forced to handle coming yearling and two-year-old heifers, and old cows.

"For immediate delivery, owners are asking \$55 and \$60 for yearling steers, and such offerings are plain in quality, practically all the good yearlings hereabout having been sent to the central states last fall. A few good three-year-olds are available at \$115 to \$125 per head, but they are scarce. Indications are that Kansas pasturemen will have to summer steer yearlings, with such plain heavy cattle as they are able to pick up.

"A few trades have been made in standard calves for 1929 fall delivery at \$45 to \$50, but little has been done in yearlings. They are asking \$11 for well-bred cattle weighing 700 to 800 pounds, fall delivery. Little trading has been going on for several months past. Missionaries from Kansas City have traversed the country with pockets full of orders for cattle to go to Kansas grass, but have been unable to get them."

Bargain-hunting in stock cattle is a futile task. Cattle scarcity may not exist; but the man with a pasture or a feed-lot to replenish is ready to take oath and testify to the contrary.

THE DENVER MARKET

BY W. N. FULTON

DENVER, COLO., February 2, 1929.

THE JANUARY CATTLE MARKET was somewhat of a disappointment to the trade. Sales at stock-show time were very satisfactory, but late in the month the market on fat cattle was rather dull, and prices were hardly sufficient to allow a profit on the feeding stock taken out at the high prices prevailing early last fall. There is every indication, however, that improvement will be forthcoming later on, and the prediction is freely made that those who purchased their feeder cattle after October 1 last year, and who hold them for marketing later in the spring, will be able to realize a profit.

Good fat steers that sold around \$12.50 to \$13.50 early in January are now bringing around \$12 to \$13, with fair grades from \$11.50 to \$12. Cows sold early in the year at \$8.50 to \$9.50 for choice kinds, while the same grades are now bringing \$8 to \$9. Good-quality well-finished heifers are going over the scales at \$10.50 to \$11.65, as compared with around the same prices early in the month. Feeder steers that sold at \$10.50 to \$12 early in January are now bringing around \$10.25 to \$11.75.

The supply of cattle in the feed-lots of the country is not excessive, and there is every reason to look for more limited supplies and a more satisfactory market as the spring season advances.

Hogs.—Hog trade was active during the month, with a good demand. Despite the big supply, the stock was taken readily. Good-quality hogs sold early in January at a top of \$8.50; toward the middle of the month they had gone to \$9.10, and at the close desirable hogs were topping the market at around \$9.30.

The supply of hogs in the Denver territory is reported to be rather limited, and there is every reason to look for a continuation of present prices for some time to come.

Sheep.—Fat-lamb trade was active during the month, and the market had a good tone throughout. Prices advanced around half a dollar a hundredweight on good fat lambs, while feeder lambs show an advance of 75 cents to \$1. The January upturn was somewhat of a surprise to the trade, as the majority of operators did not look for an advance until later in the spring.

Good-quality fat lambs were selling on the Denver market early in January at around \$14.50 to \$15; by the middle of the month they were selling readily at \$15.50 to \$15.90, while an extreme top was made at \$16.15. Later a slight reaction carried best-quality lambs to around \$15.50 to \$15.60 at the close of the month. Feeder lambs were selling early in January at around \$13.75 to \$14.50, whereas choice grades were

Earlier than usual

[February 19-20, 1929]

are the dates of the

HEREFORD ROUND-UP SALE

Royal Building, Kansas City, Mo.

Plan now to buy your Bulls in the Round-Up. There will be a sufficient number to permit selection of the quantity and quality desired.

Prices Are Reasonable at the Round-Up

PRIMARYLY A BULL SALE, BUT FEMALES
WILL ALSO BE OFFERED

For catalog or particulars write

American Hereford Cattle Breeders'
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Herd Bulls

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Pure-Bred Hereford Cattle PERRY PARK RANCH

LARKSPUR, COLORADO

R. P. Lamont, Jr.

Owner

bringing \$15 to \$15.50 at the close of the month. A sharp advance in fat ewes was reported, the desirable finished grades selling late in January at \$9 to \$9.50.

Lamb-feeders are making good profit at present prices, and there is every indication that they will continue for some time to come.

HIDES IN QUIESCENT MOOD

J. E. P.

THE HIDE MARKET is quiet and dull, with a downward trend; but tanners are always on the alert to replenish stocks at fractional declines. The Chicago packer market broke sharply in January, whereupon tanners' need of raw stock became evident, heavy sales being made on the break. Chicago packers cleared 90,000 hides on the decline of the third week of January, taking 16 cents for native cows and 17 cents for extreme light native steers. This has reduced the accumulation, and should put the market in a stronger strategic position. The January decline in hides had the logical effect of putting shoemakers in bearish mood, to the disadvantage of leather prices.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES showing prices on the principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on January 28, 1929, compared with December 31, 1928:

SLAUGHTER STEERS:	Jan. 28, 1929	Dec. 31, 1928
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$15.00-15.50	\$15.50-16.25
Good	13.00-14.75	13.25-15.50
Choice (1,100 lbs. down)	15.25-16.00	15.50-17.00
Good	13.00-15.25	13.25-15.75
Medium (800 lbs. up)	11.25-13.00	11.50-13.50
YEARLING STEERS:		
Good to Choice	13.00-16.00	13.25-16.25
HEIFERS:		
Good to Choice	10.00-13.50	10.25-14.00
COWS:		
Good to Choice	8.25-10.75	8.75-11.50
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:		
Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	10.50-11.75	10.75-12.00
Common to Medium	8.75-10.50	8.75-10.50
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	10.50-12.00	10.75-12.00
Common to Medium	8.25-10.50	8.50-10.75
HOGS:		
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)	9.50-10.00	8.65- 9.15
LAMBS:		
Medium to Choice (84 to 92 lbs.)	14.90-17.65	13.00-15.65

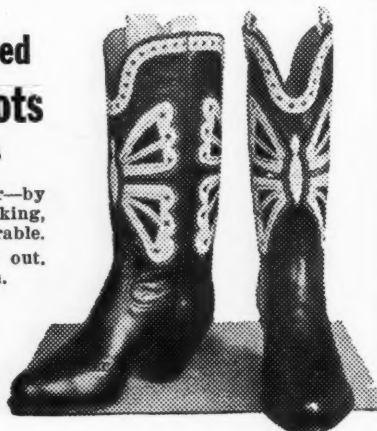
Sturdy, Long-Lived Hand-Made Boots

FOR RANCHERS

Made of finest leather—by hand. Although fine-looking, they are strong and durable. New 1929 catalog now out. Ask for it—no obligation.

Dave Pasada

1640 Cahuenga Ave.
Hollywood, Calif.



LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

Monday, January 28, 1929

CATTLE AND CALVES

STEERS:	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA	DENVER
Choice (1,300 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$12.75-14.75	\$13.50-14.75	
Good	11.25-12.75	11.50-13.50	
Choice (1,100 to 1,300 lbs.)	12.75-15.00	13.50-15.00	
Good	11.50-13.25	11.75-13.50	\$10.85-13.10
Choice (950 to 1,100 lbs.)	13.25-15.25	14.00-15.75	
Good	11.50-13.25	12.00-14.00	10.85-13.25
Medium (800 lbs. up)	10.25-11.50	10.50-12.00	9.60-10.85
Common	8.25-10.25	8.25-10.50	7.90- 9.60

YEARLING STEERS:

Choice (750 to 950 lbs.)	13.25-15.50	14.00-15.75	
Good	11.50-13.50	12.00-14.00	

HEIFERS:

Choice (850 lbs. down)	11.50-13.25	12.25-13.00	
Good	10.00-11.50	11.00-12.25	9.85-12.00
Common to Medium	7.50-10.00	7.50-11.00	7.15- 9.85
Choice (850 lbs. up)	10.00-12.25	10.50-12.75	
Good	8.75-11.75	9.75-11.75	9.35-11.75
Medium	8.00-10.50	8.00-11.00	8.65- 9.85

COWS:

Choice	9.25-10.50	9.50-10.75	9.00- 9.60
Good	8.00- 9.25	8.25- 9.50	7.90- 9.00
Common to Medium	6.75- 8.00	6.75- 8.25	6.60- 7.90
Low Cutters and Cutters	5.00- 6.75	5.50- 6.75	4.50- 6.60

BULLS:

Good to Choice	9.25-10.00	9.00-10.00	7.85- 8.85
Outters to Medium	6.75- 9.25	7.00- 9.00	6.50- 7.85

CALVES:

Medium to Choice (500 lbs. down)	9.00-12.00	9.00-12.00	9.00-12.00
Culls to Common	6.50- 9.00	6.00- 9.00	5.75- 9.00

VEALERS:

Good to Choice	13.00-16.00	13.00-15.50	13.00-15.00
Medium	9.00-13.00	11.00-13.00	11.00-13.00
Culls to Common	6.50- 9.00	6.50-11.00	6.25-11.00

FEEDERS AND STOCKERS—

STEERS:

Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	10.75-12.25	11.00-12.25	10.50-11.90
Common to Medium	8.25-10.75	8.75-11.00	7.75-10.50
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	10.75-12.50	11.25-12.50	10.50-12.00
Common to Medium	7.75-10.75	8.50-11.25	7.50-10.50

HEIFERS:

Good to Choice	9.00-11.00	8.25-10.50	9.00-10.25
Common to Medium	7.50- 9.00	7.25- 8.25	7.35- 9.00

COWS:

Good to Choice	7.50- 8.50	6.75- 7.75	7.25- 8.25
Common to Medium	6.25- 7.50	5.50- 6.75	6.25- 7.25

CALVES:

Good to Choice	11.00-13.75	11.00-13.50	11.00-12.65
Medium	9.00-11.00	8.50-11.00	9.00-11.00

HOGS

Heavy Weights, Medium to Choice	\$ 9.25- 9.60	\$ 9.00- 9.50	\$ 8.75- 9.50
Medium Weights, Medium to Choice	9.35- 9.65	9.00- 9.50	8.90- 9.50
Light Weights, Medium to Choice	9.35- 9.65	8.90- 9.50	8.75- 9.50
Light Lights, Medium to Choice	8.50- 9.40	8.35- 9.35	8.50- 9.30
Packing Sows	7.85- 8.60	8.25- 8.85	8.00- 8.50
Slaughter Pigs, Medium to Choice	7.00- 8.00		
Feeder and Stocker Pigs, Med. to Ch.	7.00- 8.00	7.00- 8.00	

SHEEP AND LAMBS

LAMBS:

Good to Choice (84 lbs. down)	\$15.50-16.50	\$15.75-16.80	\$14.85-15.90
Medium (92 lbs. down)	14.50-15.50	14.25-15.75	13.25-14.85
Culls to Common (all weights)	10.00-14.50	10.50-14.25	10.00-13.25

YEARLING WETHERS:

Medium to Choice (110 lbs. down)	11.00-14.50	10.50-13.75	
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EWES:

Medium to Choice (120 lbs. down)	7.75- 9.75	8.00- 9.75	7.50- 9.85
Medium to Choice (120 to 150 lbs.)	7.50- 9.50	7.75- 9.60	
Medium to Choice (all weights)	3.75- 7.75	3.50- 8.00	

FEEDING LAMBS:

Good to Choice		14.50-15.75	14.25-15.50
Medium		13.25-14.50	13.50-14.25

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-seven markets for the month of December, 1928, compared with December, 1927, and for the full year ending December, 1928 and 1927:

RECEIPTS

	December		Full Year Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*	1,074,757	1,217,362	15,187,418	16,258,428
Calves.....	434,804	473,274	6,289,057	6,504,800
Hogs.....	4,773,419	4,208,728	46,526,921	41,410,618
Sheep.....	1,609,534	1,609,168	25,597,262	23,939,209

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	December		Full Year Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*	455,956	563,186	7,045,462	7,108,475
Calves.....	142,532	165,716	1,963,656	2,064,166
Hogs.....	1,529,373	1,483,514	17,191,118	15,043,162
Sheep.....	693,256	723,228	13,323,939	12,482,075

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	December		Full Year Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*	218,238	278,397	3,562,407	3,304,223
Calves.....	34,879	40,870	403,225	311,043
Hogs.....	48,351	94,721	734,550	922,084
Sheep.....	193,341	173,624	5,011,160	4,902,250

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	December		Full Year Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*	607,624	651,314	7,925,059	8,898,749
Calves.....	301,992	328,721	4,383,861	4,559,925
Hogs.....	3,230,372	2,746,508	29,282,671	26,346,637
Sheep.....	916,787	895,618	12,252,887	11,459,305

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on January 1, 1929, as compared with January 1, 1928, and average holdings on that date for the last five years (in pounds):

Commodity	Jan. 1, 1929	Jan. 1, 1928	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	77,024,000	54,968,000	76,838,000
Cured beef*	21,829,000	21,979,000	25,434,000
Lamb and mutton	5,625,000	4,408,000	3,245,000
Frozen pork.....	151,923,000	105,654,000	103,621,000
Dry salt pork*	142,248,000	97,335,000	110,399,000
Pickled pork*	375,384,000	320,436,000	350,906,000
Miscellaneous.....	83,030,000	61,420,000	71,548,000
Totals.....	857,063,000	666,200,000	741,991,000
Lard.....	84,557,000	54,855,000	51,543,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED MEATS

Monday, January 28, 1929

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

STEERS (700 lbs. up):	CHICAGO	BOSTON	NEW YORK
Choice	\$20.00-22.00	\$19.50-20.50	\$19.50-22.00
Good	18.00-20.00	18.50-19.50	18.00-20.00
STEERS (550 to 700 lbs.):			
Choice	21.00-23.00		20.50-22.50
Good	19.00-21.00		19.00-21.00
STEERS (500 lbs. up):			
Medium	17.00-18.00	17.50-18.50	17.00-18.00
Common		17.00-17.50	16.00-17.00
YEARLING STEERS (300 to 550 lbs.):			
Choice	22.00-24.00		21.50-23.00
Good	20.00-22.00		19.50-21.50
Medium	18.00-20.00		
COWS:			
Good	16.50-17.50	16.50-17.00	17.00-18.00
Medium	15.50-16.50	15.50-16.50	15.50-17.00
Common	14.00-15.50	15.00-15.50	15.00-15.50
VEALERS:			
Choice	25.00-26.00	26.00-28.00	28.00-30.00
Good	23.00-24.00	23.00-26.00	26.00-28.00
Medium	21.00-23.00	21.00-23.00	23.00-26.00
Common	19.00-21.00	19.00-21.00	21.00-23.00

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

LAMBS (38 lbs. down):			
Choice	\$29.00-30.00	\$29.00-30.00	\$29.00-30.00
Good	28.00-29.00	28.00-29.00	28.00-29.00
Medium	27.00-28.00	26.00-28.00	26.00-28.00
LAMBS (39 to 45 lbs.):			
Choice	28.00-30.00	28.00-29.00	28.00-29.00
Good	27.00-29.00	27.00-28.00	27.00-28.00
Medium	26.00-28.00	25.00-27.00	26.00-27.00
LAMBS (46 to 55 lbs.):			
Choice	27.00-28.00	26.00-27.00	27.00-28.00
Good	26.00-27.00	25.00-26.00	26.00-27.00
MUTTON (Ewes, 70 lbs. down):			
Good	16.00-18.00	17.00-19.00	15.00-17.00
Medium	14.00-16.00	14.00-17.00	13.00-15.00

FRESH PORK CUTS

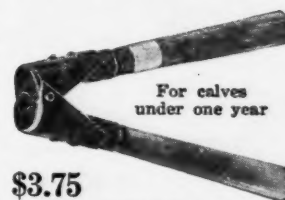
LOINS:			
8-10 lb. av.....	\$20.00-21.00	\$18.00-19.00	\$18.00-20.00
10-12 lb. av.....	19.00-20.00	18.00-19.00	18.00-19.00

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with the WILL C. BARNES D'HORNER

CUPS out the horn buttons, so that stubs do not grow. Quick and convenient to use, and least painful to the calf.

Cutting blades are tempered tool steel. Light, but sturdy. More in use than all other types combined.

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DEADLOCK EXISTS IN WOOL

J. E. P.

NOTHING OF INTEREST concerning wool occurred at the Montana sheep meeting in January. A significant event was adjournment by the Montana legislature to attend the gathering. A handful of wool-buyers were on the ground, but no "turkey talk" was heard. What they had to say on the subject of prices was distinctly bearish, which was to have been expected. At this juncture it is impossible even to guess what will happen between now and the time wool leaves the sheep's back. The market has an optimistic look. Summer Street, Boston, takes a cheerful view of both the situation and the prospect. American manufacturers have been free buyers of South American cross-breeds, suggesting that they need wool. Although eastern markets continue quiet, increasing interest on the part of manufacturers is detected, especially in the case of fine wools. London reports improvement, the River Plate

market is firm, and Australian markets are in healthy condition. At the recent Sydney sales, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, Italy, Belgium, and England were in the bidding; American buyers taking little, although they absorbed 75 per cent of the cross-bred offering at Montevideo.

Encouraging phases are moderate wool supplies at the mills, the condition of stocks at concentration points, and the generally firm position of wool values everywhere.

This is always a season when dealers show strenuous resistance toward high prices. Manufacturers advance the stereotyped argument that prices are too high to justify accumulation, and dealers are anxious to buy the new clip at the lowest possible price, both to reduce sales resistance and to widen their margins. At the moment it would appear that dealers and growers are deadlocked on values.

Probably less than 3,000,000 pounds of new-clip wools have been contracted, efforts to buy wool on the sheep's back having been suspended, temporarily at least. That spinners will defer commitments for the purpose of supporting the bearish attitude of dealers is certain, which accounts for the present quiet condition of the market. It would be necessary only for a few dealers to break away from the crowd to start a pre-shearing buying movement.

With dealers taking the position of waiting until wool is in the bag, the course of the market until shearing time comes around is creating interest. This uncertainty is prompting spinners to hold current buying down to bare needs, meanwhile bidding below asking prices.

Territories and fleeces are on an approximately even basis. Half-blood territory is selling at \$1.10, and fine staple within a range of \$1.10 and \$1.12, clean basis. Twelve-month Texas wools in the grease have realized 44 cents, and fleece wools are bringing 45 cents for fine staple, 45 cents for braid, and 40 cents for fine clothing. Considerable quantities of greasy quarter-blood have changed hands at 53½ cents. Some mills are bidding 5 cents under the November peak. Fall Texas wools have sold at \$1 to \$1.05, clean basis, and half-blood Montana wool at \$1.10.

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MEAL (fine-ground) PEA CAKE (small)
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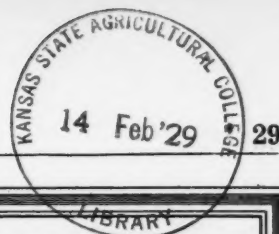
FEEDSTUFFS

COTTONSEED CAKE, f. o. b. Dallas, Texas, on February 1 was quoted at \$42.50. The hay market at Kansas City on January 30 was as follows: Alfalfa—No. 1 extra leafy, \$32 to \$33; No. 2 extra leafy, \$30.50 to \$31.50; No. 1, \$27.50 to \$30; No. 2 leafy, \$25 to \$27; No. 2, \$22 to \$24.50; No. 3 leafy, \$20 to \$21.50; No. 3, \$18 to \$19.50; sample, \$13 to \$17.50; prairie—No. 1, \$12.50 to \$13; No. 2, \$11 to \$12; No. 3, \$9 to \$10.50; sample, \$7 to \$8.50; timothy—No. 1, \$16.50 to \$17; No. 2, \$14.50 to \$16; No. 3, \$11 to \$14; sample, \$9 to \$10.50; timothy clover-mixed—No. 1, \$16 to \$17; No. 2, \$14.50 to \$15.50; No. 3, \$9 to \$14.

GERMANY TO CONTINUE TO IMPORT MEATS

PROBABILITY that Germany will continue to need imports of meats and fats is seen by a Hamburg correspondent to the *National Provisioner*. The quantity of lard and bacon required will depend on the fluctuations in domestic hog production, he says. Generally two years of high hog prices are followed by two years of low prices.

It is the prevailing opinion of the German meat trade that there will be plenty of room in Germany for the importation of frozen beef. German cattle-raisers use their available feedstuffs to turn out dairy products rather than beef.



TRADE REVIEW

LAST YEAR'S FOREIGN TRADE

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE from the United States in 1928 totaled \$5,129,132,000—a gain of 5.4 per cent over the previous year. This gain, as analyzed by *Bradstreet's*, was due mainly to increased shipments of automotive products, agricultural implements, machinery, electrical apparatus, refined petroleum, iron and steel, and raw cotton. On the other hand, exports of grains, meats, and coal declined. Imports during the past year were valued at \$4,089,930,000, which was a decrease of 2.2 per cent from 1927. Exports were the largest since 1920, imports the lightest since 1924, and the export excess greater than in any year since 1921. For the month of December and the twelve months ending December, 1928 and 1927, the figures were as below:

	December		Twelve Months Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Exports.....	\$475,000,000	\$407,641,000	\$5,129,132,000	\$4,866,160,000
Imports.....	338,000,000	331,234,000	4,089,930,000	4,184,453,000
Excess of exports.....	\$137,000,000	\$ 76,407,000	\$1,039,202,000	\$ 681,707,000

During the year, gold exports from this country amounted to \$560,759,000, and imports to \$168,887,000, leaving an export balance of \$391,872,000. Last year imports exceeded exports by \$6,080,000.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS

EXPORTS OF MEAT, meat products, and animal fats from the United States for the month of December and the twelve months ending December, 1928, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1927, were as below:

BEEF PRODUCTS (Pounds)

	December		Twelve Months Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Beef, fresh.....	267,472	164,811	2,051,654	1,737,742
Beef, pickled.....	490,856	695,980	9,364,979	14,867,932
Beef, canned.....	108,627	236,589	1,899,225	2,752,348
Oleo oil.....	3,314,937	4,432,650	62,779,381	78,781,070
Totals.....	4,181,892	5,530,030	76,095,239	98,139,092

PORK PRODUCTS (Pounds)

	December		Twelve Months Ending December	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Pork, fresh.....	867,241	1,020,320	11,412,601	8,235,058
Pork, pickled.....	1,976,432	1,939,786	33,402,029	29,270,940
Bacon.....	9,593,177	9,346,695	117,686,967	105,649,020
Cumberland sides.....	595,668	546,491	5,511,740	8,804,533
Hams and shoulders.....	8,518,363	9,905,417	124,148,631	122,613,240
Wiltshire sides.....	177,817	39,994	931,112	652,954
Sausage, canned.....	122,358	174,734	2,037,954	3,844,420
Lard.....	86,357,697	62,855,241	759,722,195	681,302,778
Lard compounds.....	385,085	507,231	4,713,368	8,988,286
Neutral lard.....	1,170,826	1,769,477	23,749,830	20,396,671
Totals.....	109,764,664	88,105,386	1,083,316,427	989,757,900

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALASIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, December 15, 1928.

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT on beef production in north Australia has just been published by the royal commission appointed to inquire into various phases of the industry by the Western Australian government. The three members of the commission are men with a long practical experience in breeding and marketing cattle under the conditions that obtain in the north; so it may be safely said that they know what they are talking about.

The beef-cattle industry of north Australia, owing to the isolation of those actively engaged in it, is to a large extent inarticulate, and this latest report will, it is hoped, do something toward drawing attention to its vital importance to the country as a whole. In the past the governments most closely concerned have been notably indifferent to the disabilities under which the industry labors. I mentioned in one of my previous letters that the Queensland government appointed a commission similar to that of Western Australia at the end of last year. Its report was presented over six months ago, and contained many excellent recommendations for lightening the burdens of cattlemen; but so far they have not been considered by Parliament, and the much-needed relief has not been granted. Cattle-raisers do not look for any special bolstering-up of their business. All they ask for is fair treatment, taking into consideration the peculiar circumstances under which they work.

The importance of the industry and its decline are well illustrated in the Western Australian report. This states that in 1921 there were in the Commonwealth 14,441,309 head of cattle, and, if these be valued at a flat rate of \$17.50 per head, they represented a sum of \$252,772,905. Owing to the effect of a slump in the cattle market, and a variety of other causes, not only was there a tendency for the stock to deteriorate in quality, but the numbers in 1926 had dropped to 11,888,077, worth, on the basis of computation, \$208,041,345.

Even on the latter set of figures, therefore, the industry is one that is worth preserving and re-establishing upon a firmer footing, more especially as there are several subsidiaries—such as tanning, bootmaking, margarine, and others—intimately associated with it and solely dependent upon it. The value of frozen beef exported is estimated at about \$16,250,000, and of by-products at \$5,000,000 per annum. The export trade, however, represents only 18 per cent of the annual output of cattle, and, if the export values are multiplied by five, the approximate annual value of the industry to Australia is seen to be about \$106,250,000.

Both commissions emphasize the necessity for materially reducing the rents of crown lands and granting extended leases. The majority of pastoral leases in the north of Western Australia expire in 1948, and naturally financial houses are chary of advancing much money for permanent improvements until it is definitely known what extension will be granted. The commission recommends a minimum of thirty years from 1948, and the provision that no rental will be increased more than

a minimum of 25 per cent above the present rate. In the meantime, it suggests that the land be reclassified, and the rents reappraised on a more equitable and systematic basis. A good deal of the country is now charged on the basis of \$2.40 per 1,000 acres per annum.

The Western Australian commission points out at some length that taxation and tariffs add to the difficulties of the situation. These factors, while encouraging and assisting secondary enterprises, are a source of continual menace to the energies and initiative of the primary producer. High wages, due to the operations of the Arbitration Court, also increase costs of production and lead to high transport charges. By these three influences, cattle-growers in particular are affected and hampered in their endeavors to cope with the difficulties surrounding their industry.

Dealing with the cost of production in specific areas, it is shown that the average in West Kimberley is \$23.30 per head for marketed cattle, of which 49.9 per cent is represented by wages and rations; 19.86 per cent by other working expenses, including stores, pumping, transport, etc.; 15.63 per cent by depreciation; 11.88 per cent by rent; and 2.73 per cent by rates and taxes. The average cost of production of East Kimberley animals sold is \$11.76 (these figures include nearly 50 per cent young stock sold to other districts for fattening); wages and rations accounting for 56.74 per cent of same; other working expenses, 26.12 per cent; depreciation, 6.63 per cent; rent, 8.92 per cent; rates and taxes, 1.59 per cent.

Perhaps something will be done some day, but it must be disheartening work waiting.

The 1928 beef export season in Queensland, so far as slaughterings are concerned, is practically finished. Most of

the packing-plants have had a fair run, and, owing to the better selling market in Great Britain for beef, and for by-products elsewhere, they have been able to pay considerably better than usual prices for fat cattle. Just before they closed down the companies operating in the Brisbane district were buying in the sale-yards on the basis of from \$7.44 to \$8.16 per cwt., dressed weight, for first-grade ox beef, to \$7.20 for seconds, and to about \$6.96 for fat cows. These prices, of course, do not represent the rate paid throughout the whole of the north. As a matter of fact, a large proportion of the north Queensland works bought fats on the flat rate basis of \$5.52 to \$5.76 per cwt., while at Wyndham, in Western Australia, the export buying rate was \$4.32 to \$4.56 per cwt. for best beef, and \$3.60 to \$3.84 for seconds.

Cattle prices are taking the usual summer downward curve in the southern states. Prime fat bullocks are selling at from \$70 to \$75, good trade descriptions at from \$62.50 to \$67.50, and fat cows to \$50 per head in the Sydney and Melbourne yards, with extra-quality light weights relatively higher. The feed position is moderately satisfactory at the moment, though there is an undercurrent of anxiety on the part of graziers, owing to the lack of subsoil moisture. The spring was exceptionally dry, and it is feared that grass will go off rapidly if rain does not fall soon.

My latest advices from New Zealand report abundant pastures, and stock generally in good condition, indicating a fair export of beef a little later. Up to the present, supplies have been sufficient only for the local markets, but values are easing. Last season prime steer beef was \$8.40 per cwt. for export, and it is not likely that the price will be any higher this year.

ROUND THE RANGE

LIVE STOCK AND RANGES IN JANUARY

Ranges.—Snow early in December had covered much of the northern and higher ranges, resulting in considerable feeding,

says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in its January report. Winter range feed in Arizona and California had been short, requiring use of farm pastures. Feed conditions were good in

Montana, the Dakotas, parts of Wyoming and Colorado, Texas, and southeastern New Mexico, but the northern sections of Arizona and New Mexico were short of feed. On the whole, ranges were not so good as a year ago, due to dry conditions in the fall west of the Continental Divide, and snow-covering in places.

Cattle.—Cattle were generally in good flesh at the beginning of the winter and had only shown the usual seasonal decline in condition. Feeding was heavier than last year. Losses had been light. Trading was at a standstill, but a few steers had been contracted in Texas for spring delivery. The cattle business in the West was going into the new year in the best financial condition in years. The higher prices of 1928 had resulted in culling and close selling, but there was not noticeable much tendency to restock.

Sheep.—Sheep were generally in good condition, but heavy feeding had been necessary on the winter ranges in Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado and Wyoming, where much cake and corn had been shipped in. Conditions had been good for sheep in Montana, western South Dakota, Texas, and parts of New Mexico and Wyoming. In Arizona and California winter range and feed had been short, handicapping early lambing

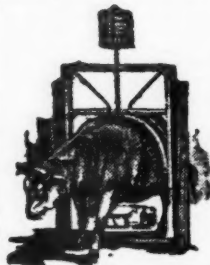
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conditions. Ewes in the late-lambing and northern sections were in fair to good flesh, but snow, cold, and short feed had not been favorable for the fall breeding season in Utah, Nevada, parts of Wyoming, and a few other sections. Lambs in the feed-lots had done well, but were a few pounds lighter than last year.

CATTLE ON FEED JANUARY 1

The number of cattle on feed for market in the eleven Corn Belt states was 3 per cent greater on January 1, 1929,

than on January 1, 1928, according to the cattle-feeding estimate of the Department of Agriculture. Most of the states in the group had a larger number on feed than last year, but the greatest increases were in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska.

In the western states the estimated number on feed for market January 1 was about 10 per cent, or 45,000 head, smaller than a year ago. Cattle-feeding was on a reduced scale in nearly all of these states, with the most notable decreases in California and Montana.



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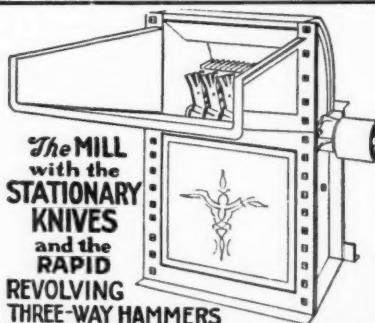


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Twelve Months of Progress

THIRTEEN and seven-tenths per cent of the market receipts of live stock on twelve leading markets were sold co-operatively through the Producers Commission Associations in 1928. This amounted to 6,133,821 head of cattle, calves, sheep, and hogs, which had a total combined value of \$138,263,824.89.

Besides the live stock handled by the terminal market selling agencies, the Eastern States Company, which is affiliated with the Producers Co-operative Commission Associations as a national order buying agency, handled 450,878 head of live stock in 1928, with a total sales value of \$7,363,975. This was an increase of nine per cent over the total value of live stock handled in 1927.

A third co-operative live-stock marketing service which supplements the other activities of co-operative live-stock producers is the National Producers Feeder Pools, which handle feeder cattle and lambs on a direct route from the ranges to the feed-lot. The Pool handled 84,004 head of lambs, with a total sales value of \$648,844.09, and 22,102 head of cattle, with a sales value of \$1,351,632.90, in 1928.

These figures challenge the attention of live-stock producers, who are invited to write and learn more about this organization which is directed by and operated for farmers.

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

with the following terminal marketing agencies:

Producers Commission Association
Sioux City, Iowa

Producers Commission Association
Kansas City, Missouri

Producers Live Stock Commission Association
National Stock Yards, Illinois

Peoria Producers Commission Association
Peoria, Illinois

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Producers Commission Association
Indianapolis, Indiana

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Buffalo, New York

Chicago Producers Commission Association
Chicago, Illinois

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Cincinnati, Ohio

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Cleveland, Ohio

Michigan Live Stock Exchange
Detroit, Michigan

Evansville Producers Commission Association
Evansville, Indiana

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